

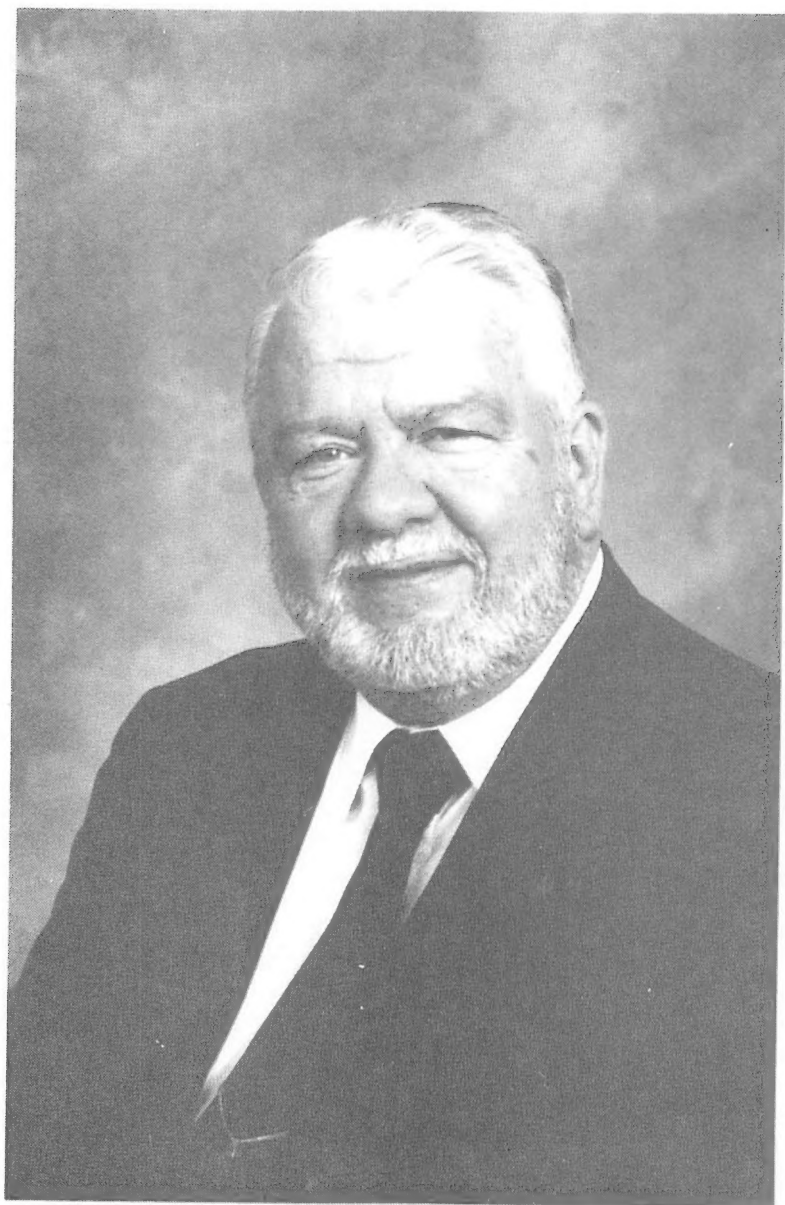
Proceedings

Of The
Grand Lodge
Of
Ancient, Free and Accepted
Masons
Of
North Carolina



2000





Charles Edward Cathey
Grand Master 2000

Charles Edward Cathey

Charles Edward Cathey was born to Hugh J. and Barbara Sheffield Cathey April 19, 1938, at Waynesville, North Carolina. He graduated from Bethel High School in Haywood County. After high school he attended Western Carolina College before entering military service. After a tour duty in the Army he was employed by Champion Papers International and studied in their mechanical apprentice program. In 1962 he left Champion and went to work for the Dayco Corporation in their Maintenance Department. He moved to the Research and Development Department in 1970. In 1975 he attended Haywood Community College for two years to study business administration. In 1980 he was promoted to manager of the Prototype Shop of the R&D Technical Center, which position he held until August 1997, when he left Dayco after 35 years with the company.

In 1957 Charles married Ava Jean Henson. They have three children—Chuck, Tom and Machele. Tom is the only one married, he and his wife Amy have three sons, Joshua, and twins Seth and Jared.

Brother Cathey is a former member of East Fork Baptist Church, where he served as a Sunday School teacher for many years. He was a deacon of the church and served as chairman. He also filled offices on various boards and committees. He is currently a member of Cruso Methodist Church where he serves on various boards and committees.

Speculative Masonry

Brother Cathey was raised by Sonoma Lodge No. 472 on April 28, 1967 and served as their master in 1974. He was secretary from 1977 until 1992. He was appointed district deputy grand master 1980-82. He served on the Board of Directors of Oxford Orphanage 1989-91. He is grand representative to The Grand Lodge of Hawaii.

Capitular Masonry

Cathey was exalted a Royal Arch Mason in Waynesville Chapter 69 on December 28, 1967, and served as high priest in 1974. He received the Order of High Priest in 1974. He has served as district high priest and district lecturer of the 10th District. He is grand representative of the Grand Chapter of West Virginia.

Cryptic Masonry

Cathey was greeted a Royal and Select Master in Doric Council 20 on August 2, 1968, and served as Illustrious Master in 1973. He received the Thrice Illustrious Master Degree in 1974. He has served as district lecturer of the 10th District. In 1986-87 he served as grand sentinel of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters in North Carolina. He is grand representative of the Grand Council of Arkansas. He received the Order of Ish-Sodi awards, Certificate in 1983 and Medal in 1988. He received the Grand Council Simmons Jones Baker Award in 1987.

Chivalric Orders

Cathey was knighted a Knights Templar in Waynesville Commandery 31 on August 31, 1968, was commander in 1976. He was a charter member in North Carolina of the Knight Crusaders of the Cross in 1983. He has served as district commander of the 10th District and instructor inspector of the 9th and 10th District. He is grand representative of the Grand Commandery of South Dakota. He is a life sponsor of the Knight Templar Eye Foundation. He was awarded the Grand Encampment Knight Templar Cross of Honor of 1983. He was elected into the Grand Commandery line as grand warder in 1988 and in 1996 he served as grand commander.

Scottish Rite

Cathey has been a member of Valley of Asheville Scottish Rite since 1968. He is past venerable master of Asheville Lodge of Perfection and past master of Kadosh of Asheville Consistory. He received the rank and decoration KCCH in

1987 and served as sovereign grand commander for the KCCH Investiture in 1989 and 1991. He was coroneted Inspector General Honorary 33° October 21, 1991.

Other Appendant Bodies

Charles Cathey is a member of Oasis Temple, the Haywood Shrine Club, and the Past Master's Unit.

He is a member of Waynesville Council No. 224 Allied Masonic Degrees, and is a past sovereign master. In 1976 he received the KYCH in Lily of the Valley Priory No. 1 Knights of the York Cross of Honor. He served as prior in 1994.

He became a member of The Order of the Red Cross of Constantine in 1989. He is a member of the York Rite College, past governor of Western North Carolina College No. 78, received the Order of the Purple Cross of York 1990, charter member of Smoky Mountain College No. 172, and is serving as treasurer.

He is a member of Saint Patrick Council No. 1 Knight Masons and the Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests, and is serving as an officer.

He is a member of the North Carolina College M.S.R.I.C.F. as well as the Royal Order of Scotland, the Missouri Lodge of Research, the Masonic Book Club of Illinois, the Philalethes Society, and Quatuor Coronati Lodge of Research No. 2076, London, England.

He is a past patron of Sonoma Chapter No. 254, Order of the Eastern Star. He was district deputy grand patron 1986-87, and grand chaplain of the Grand Chapter of North Carolina 1990-91.

He served on the Advisory Board for Haywood Assembly No. 30, Order of the Rainbow for Girls, and received the Grand Cross of Color in 1985.

Past Grand Masters

A list of the Past Grand Masters of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina from 1787 to 1998 inclusive, and dates when elected.

Samuel Johnston	1787	F. P. Hobgood Jr.	1915
Richard Caswell	1788	Claude L. Pridgen	1917
Samuel Johnston	1789, '90, '91	George S. Norfleet	1918
Wm. R. Davie	1792, '93, '94, '95	A. B. Andrews Jr.	1919
	'96, '97, '98	Henry A. Grady	1919
William Polk	1799, 1800, '01	James C. Braswell	1920
John L. Taylor	1802, '03, '04	J. Bailey Owen	1921
John Hall	1805, '06, '07	James H. Webb	1922
Benjamin Smith	1808, '09, '10	Hubert McN. Poteat	1923
Robert Williams	1811, '12, '13	James LeG. Everett	1924
John L. Taylor	1814, '15, '16	Leon Cash	1925
Calvin Jones	1817, '18, '19	John E. Cameron	1926
John A. Cameron	1820, '21	John H. Anderson	1927
James S. Smith	1822	Raymond C. Dunn	1928
Robert Strange	1823, '24	John J. Phoenix	1929
H. G. Burton	1825, '26	E. W. Timberlake Jr.	1930
L. D. Wilson	1827, '28, '29	J. W. Winborne	1931
R. D. Spaight Jr.	1830, '31	H. C. Alexander	1932
S. J. Baker	1832	P. T. Wilson	1933
S. F. Patterson	1833, '34	R. F. Ebbs	1934
L. H. Marsteller	1835, '36	Charles B. Newcomb	1935
D. W. Stone	1837, '38, '39	J. Giles Hudson	1936
S. J. Baker	1840	Watson N. Sherrod	1937
D. L. Crenshaw	1841	Harry T. Patterson	1938
J. H. Wheeler	1842, '43	J. Edward Allen	1939
P. W. Fanning	1844, '45, '46	Thomas J. Harkins	1940
W. F. Collins	1847, '48, '49	Charles P. Eldridge	1941
A. J. Jenkins	1850, '51, '52	James E. Shipman	1942
Clement H. Jordan	1853, '54	James W. Payne	1943
P. A. Holt	1855, '56	Julius C. Hobbs	1944
Alfred Martin	1857, '58	Clyde H. Jarrett	1945
Lewis S. Williams	1859, '60	William J. Bundy	1946
W. G. Hill	1861	Luther T. Hartsell Jr.	1947
E. F. Watson	1862, '63	Maxwell E. Hoffman	1948
John McCormick	1864	Wilkins P. Horton	1949
E. G. Reade	1865, '66	Wallace E. Caldwell	1950
R. W. Best	1867	Herbert M. Foy	1951
Robert B. Vance	1868, '69	William H. White	1952
Charles C. Clark	1870, '71	Edwin T. Howard	1953
John Nichols	1872, '73	Robert L. Pugh	1954
George W. Blount	1874, '75	Charles H. Pugh	1955
Horace H. Munson	1867, '77	John C. Vance	1956
William R. Cox	1878, '79	Charles A. Harris	1957
Henry F. Grainger	1880, '81	James G. Johnston	1958
Robert Bingham	1882, '83, '84	W. Eli Hand	1959
Fabius H. Busbee	1885, '86	Harvey W. Smith	1960
C. H. Robinson	1887, '88	James W. Brewer	1961
Samuel H. Smith	1889, '90	Charles C. Ricker	1962
Hezekiah A. Gudger	1891, '92	W. Edward Burrier	1963
John W. Cotten	1893, '94	G. Dudley Humphrey	1964
Frances M. Moye	1895, '96	Sam A. Hennis Jr.	1965
Walter E. Moore	1897, '98	Arnold J. Koonce, Sr.	1966
Richard J. Noble	1899	Alfred A. Kafer Jr.	1967
B. S. Royster	1900, '01	Robert N. Bass Jr.	1968
H. I. Clark	1902, '03	William A. Hooks	1969
W. S. Liddell	1904, '05	Maurice E. Walsh	1970
Francis D. Winston	1906, '07	William W. Mims Jr.	1971
Samuel M. Gattis	1908, '09	Berl M. Kahn	1972
Richard N. Hackett	1910, '11	Nathaniel C. Dean	1973
W. B. McKoy	1912	William L. Mills Jr.	1974
F. M. Winchester	1913	S. Frank Noble Jr.	1975
John T. Alderman	1914	Leslie H. Garner	1976

Past Grand Masters (Continued)

J. Earl Watson	1977	Jerry G. Tart	1989
Jacob C. Goodman Jr.	1978	Bunn T. Phillips Jr.	1990
William B. Bellois	1979	Lester Poindexter Martin Jr.	1991
E. Stansil Aldridge	1980	Ray Norris	1992
Nelson B. Banks	1981	Richard G. Moore	1993
A. C. Honeycutt	1982	William Bailey Brunk	1994
Cecil J. Liverman	1983	Clifton W. Everett Jr.	1995
I. Boyd Hopkins	1984	William H. Simpson	1996
Norburn C. Hyatt	1985	Gerry T. Smith	1997
Walter F. McCall	1986	Thomas W. Gregory	1998
Eddie P. Stiles	1987	Charles M. Ingram	1999
Lee Roy Thomas Jr.	1988		

Officers of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of North Carolina

Through the Annual Communication of 2001

Elected Officers

Charles E. Cathey (472) (Ava Jean)	<i>Grand Master</i>
152 Bethel Drive	(Res.) (828) 648-1713
Canton, NC 28716	ccathey@grandlodge-nc.org
William L. Mills III (32) (Sheri)	<i>Deputy Grand Master</i>
P. O. Box 528	(Res.) (704) 786-3204
Concord, NC 28026	(Bus.) (704) 782-3315
	wmills@grandlodge-nc.org
William G. Mathis (138) (Devonna)	<i>Senior Grand Warden</i>
151 Carr Avenue	(Res.) (910) 675-3927
Rocky Point, NC 28457	
Jerry R. Tillett (521) (Tanya)	<i>Junior Grand Warden</i>
152 Gareth Circle	(Res.) (252) 473-2530
Manteo, NC 27954	(Bus.) (252) 473-1998
Clifton W. Everett, Jr., PGM (708) (Mary)	<i>Grand Treasurer</i>
P. O. Box 7045	(Res.) (252) 756-2193
Greenville, NC 27835	(Bus.) (252) 695-7262
	(Fax.) (252) 830-3144
	ceverett@grandlodge-nc.org
T. Walton Clapp III (237) (Betty Connette)	<i>Grand Secretary</i>
P. O. Box 6506	(Res.) (919) 859-0349
Raleigh, NC 27628	(Bus.) (919) 787-2021
	(Fax.) (919) 787-2279
	wclapp@grandlodge-nc.org

Appointed Officers

Charles A. Lewis, Jr. (1) (Helga)	<i>Senior Grand Deacon</i>
5447 Eastwind Rd.	(Res.) (910) 791-3180
Wilmington, NC 28403	(Bus.) (910) 962-3251
	clewis@grandlodge-nc.org
Leonard Y. Safrit, Jr. (109) (Sarah Jo)	<i>Junior Grand Deacon</i>
P. O. Box 388	(Res.) (252) 728-3213
Beaufort, NC 28516	(Bus.) (252) 728-3843
	lsafrit@grandlodge-nc.org
Graham W. Pervier (707) (Karen)	<i>Grand Marshal</i>
453 Plymouth Avenue	(Res.) (336) 768-4148
Winston-Salem, NC 27104	(Bus.) (336) 727-2797
Gene T. Jernigan (206) (Charlla)	<i>Grand Steward</i>
283 Eugene Jernigan Rd.	(Res.) (910) 892-3723
Dunn, NC 28334	(Bus.) (910) 892-3107
W. Berry Rigdon (472) (Roseanna)	<i>Grand Steward</i>
194 Rigdon Lane	(Res.) (828) 648-0384
Waynesville, NC 28786	(Bus.) (828) 667-5984

- Hugh K. Terrell, Jr. (472) *Grand Tyler*
7049 Cruso Road (Res.) (828) 235-8903
Canton, NC 28716
- Larry M. Melton (170) *Grand Chaplain*
P. O. Box 233 (Res.) (828) 459-7490
Claremont, NC 28610
- Clarence E. Horton, Jr. (695) *Grand Historian*
1006 Sprucewood Street (Res.) (704) 932-8188
Kannapolis, NC 28081 (Bus.) (919) 733-4226
(Fax.) (919) 733-8003
- Danial M. Hogue, Jr. (576) *Grand Lecturer*
220 Gregory Road (Res.) (704) 633-3706
Salisbury, NC 28147 (Bus.) (704) 636-4420
(Fax.) (704) 639-3033
- Forrest F. Ball (293) *Grand Orator*
P. O. Box 353 (Res.) (828) 649-9425
Marshall, NC 28753 (Fax.) (828) 649-9425
- Ronnie Stewart (740) *Judge Advocate*
8300 Bell Lake Road (Res.) (919) 772-3874
Apex, NC 27502

Past Grand Masters

- Sam A. Hennis, Jr. (322) (Sis) *Grand Master 1965*
Drawer 711 (Res.) (336) 786-7579
Mount Airy, NC 27030
- S. Frank Noble, Jr. (3) (Francis) *Grand Master 1975*
310 Ave. A (Res.) (252) 637-4345
New Bern, NC 28560
- Leslie H. Garner (708) *Grand Master 1976*
1702 Knollwood Dr. (Res.) (252) 756-2300
Greenville, NC 27858
- A. C. Honeycutt (40) (Margaret) *Grand Master 1982*
605 New Bern Ave. (Res.) (919) 876-4545
Raleigh, NC 27601 (Bus.) (919) 833-1696
- Cecil J. Liverman (17) (Hazel) *Grand Master 1983*
315 W. High St. (Res.) (252) 398-3862
Murfreesboro, NC 27855
- Norburn C. Hyatt (118) (Martha) *Grand Master 1985*
58 Big Cove Rd. (Res.) (828) 667-2255
Candler, NC 28715
- Walter F. McCall (530) (Martha) *Grand Master 1986*
P. O. Box 668710 (Res.) (704) 392-0452
Charlotte, NC 28266 (Bus.) (704) 399-1506
- L. R. Thomas, Jr. (724) (Jean) *Grand Master 1988*
299 Rennys Creek Dr. (Res.) (252) 637-3306
New Bern, NC 28560

Bunn T. Phillips, Jr. (495) (Virginia)	Grand Master 1990
310 Lumyer Rd.	(Res.) (910) 997-6946
Rockingham, NC 28379	
Lester P. Martin, Jr. (134) (Elizabeth)	Grand Master 1991
P. O. Box 804	(Res.) (336) 751-2520
Mocksville, NC 27028	
Ray Norris (259) (Jean)	Grand Master 1992
312 Woodland Trail	(Res.) (828) 692-1822
Hendersonville, NC 28739	
Richard G. Moore (544) (Marie)	Grand Master 1993
7955 Lucky Creek Lane	(Res.) (704) 483-4365
Denver, NC 28037	
William B. Brunk (40) (Sharyn)	Grand Master 1994
8504 Bournemouth Dr.	(Res.) (919) 848-8588
Raleigh, NC 27615	(Bus.) (919) 676-0541
Clifton W. Everett, Jr., (708) (Mary)	Grand Master 1995
P. O. Box 7045	(Res.) (252) 756-2193
Greenville, NC 27835	(Bus.) (252) 695-7262
William H. Simpson (428) (Marian)	Grand Master 1996
1231 Westridge Road	(Res.) (336) 288-5618
Greensboro, NC 27410	
Gerry T. Smith (741) (Becky)	Grand Master 1997
1606 River Bluff Rd.	(Res.) (252) 726-5323
Morehead City, NC 23557	(Bus.) (252) 728-4935
Thomas W. Gregory, C.L. (27) (Marilyn)	Grand Master 1998
601 Red Fox Trail	(Res.) (704) 872-8973
Statesville, NC 28677	(Bus.) (704) 838-1475 Ext. 12
	(Fax.) (704) 872-1789
Charles M. Ingram (13) (Carolyn)	Grand Master 1999
P. O. Box 10	(Res.) (910) 296-1111
Kenansville, NC 28349	(Bus.) (910) 296-1111
	(Fax.) (910) 296-1113

Boards and Committees

Board of General Purposes

- Charles E. Cathey (472), *Grand Master*
 William L. Mills, III (32), *Deputy Grand Master*
 William G. Mathis (138), *Senior Grand Warden*
 Jerry R. Tillett (521), *Junior Grand Warden*
 Clifton W. Everett, Jr., PGM (708), *Grand Treasurer*
 T. Walton Clapp, III (237), *Grand Secretary, Secretary*
 2000 — H. Lloyd Wilkerson (680) 2000 — Lewis R. Ledford (27)
 2001 — Lester P. Martin, Jr., PGM (134) 2001 — Robert E. Gresham, Jr. (703)
 2002 — Ray Norris, PGM (259) 2002 — Douglas S. Moore (244)

Board of Custodians

- Charles E. Cathey (472), *Grand Master, Ex Officio Member*
 Danial M. Hogue, Jr. (576), *Grand Lecturer*
 2000 — C. Richard Patton (663) 2000 — John W. Johnston (708)
 2001 — William L. Dill (3) 2001 — James E. Vann (1)
 2002 — J. Luigi Ammons (97) 2002 — H. Michael Overcash (259)

Board of Trustees of Drewry Memorial Grand Secretary's Fund

- Charles E. Cathey (472), *Grand Master, Chairman*
 Clifton W. Everett, Jr., PGM (708), *Grand Treasurer*
 T. Walton Clapp, III (237), *Grand Secretary*
 James G. Lassiter (735) Cameron E. Shearon (40)

Board of Directors of The North Carolina Masonic Foundation, Incorporated

- 2004 — Charles E. Scott, Jr. (289), *President*
 2000 — James R. Goodman, Jr. (691) 2001 — David B. Wilson (384)
 2002 — John N. Belk (694) 2003 — James G. Martin (31)

Board of Directors of The Masonic and Eastern Star Home, Incorporated

- Charles E. Cathey (472), *Grand Master, Ex Officio Member and Chairman*
 William L. Mills, III (32), *Deputy Grand Master, Ex Officio Member*
 William G. Mathis (138), *Senior Grand Warden, Ex Officio Member*
 2000 — Edward E. Wells (98) 2000 — Joseph J. Vale (590)
 2000 — Charles E. Morris, Jr. (319) 2001 — Angus W. Mercer (728)
 2001 — Charles E. Shope (446) 2001 — Fred L. Sherrill, Jr. (709)
 2002 — Ralph V. Shipton (1) 2002 — W. Frank Wood (314)
 2002 — Charles S. Freel (529)
 Jerry R. Tillett (521), *Junior Grand Warden, Observer*
 John A. Rose, *Administrator* (428)

Board of Directors of

Masonic Home for Children at Oxford, Incorporated

Charles E. Cathey (472), *Grand Master, Ex Officio Member and Chairman*
William L. Mills, III (32), *Deputy Grand Master, Ex Officio Member*
William G. Mathis (138), *Senior Grand Warden, Ex Officio Member*
2000 — Douglas L. Caudle (27) 2000 — Curtis J. Hipps (446)
2000 — Wirgman C. Morrisette, Jr. (552) 2001 — Thomas O. Eller (283)
2001 — Luther D. Starling, Jr. (98) 2001 — Robert T. Dooley, Jr. (738)
2002 — James M. Galloway, Jr. (708) 2002 — Dennis K. Mikeal (262)
2002 — Joseph K. Transou (40)
Jerry R. Tillett (521), *Junior Grand Warden, Observer*
David R. Grissom, *Administrator* (122)

**Representative to The George Washington
Masonic National Memorial Association**

L. R. Thomas, Jr., PGM (724)

**Representative to The Masonic Service
Association of the United States**

David L. Hargett (244)

Lodge Service Commission

2000 — Ronald J. Bowers (99), *Chairman*
2001 — Billy L. Farris (515) 2002 — Randy Flack (491)
2003 — Jerry L. Stapleford (568) 2004 — James F. Parker (170)

Code Commission

2003 — Edwin L. Becton (704), *Chairman*
2000 — T. Bruce Boyette (712) 2001 — Ronald C. Hollamon (735)
2002 — Douglas L. Caudle (27) 2004 — Gerald W. Ringler (736)

Committee on By-Laws of Subordinate Lodges

T. Walton Clapp, III (237), *Grand Secretary, Chairman*

Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence

William W. Mills, III (32), *Deputy Grand Master, Ex Officio Member*
William G. Mathis (138), *Senior Grand Warden, Ex Officio Member*
Jerry R. Tillett (521), *Junior Grand Warden, Ex Officio Member*
2000 — Robin S. McCombs (657) 2000 — Dewey R. Preslar, Jr. (576)
2000 — Charles H. White (167) 2000 — James G. Moore (708)
2001 — Richard G. Moore, PGM (544) 2001 — Michael G. Whitfield (496)
2001 — Jimmie B. Hicks, Jr. (3) 2001 — Robert C. Kraus (145)
2002 — Dewey L. Keller (262) 2002 — Gerry T. Smith, PGM (741)
2002 — Thomas W. Gregory, PGM (27)
2002 — William H. Simpson, PGM (428)

Committee on Finance

William W. Mills, III (32), *Deputy Grand Master, Ex Officio Member*
William G. Mathis (138), *Senior Grand Warden, Ex Officio Member*
Jerry R. Tillett (521), *Junior Grand Warden, Ex Officio Member*
2000 — Robert S. W. Martin (134) 2000 — Isaac F. Riggs (27)
2000 — Thomas W. Gregory, PGM (27) 2001 — Dan C. Rice (409)
2001 — Ralph P. Presley (118) 2001 — Daniel R. Bishop (708)
2002 — R. Glenn Capps (679) 2002 — Eugene W. Vosecky (358)
2002 — G. Glenn Adams (515)

Committee on Appeals

2004 — Thomas D. Haigwood (284), *Chairman*
 2000 — Forrest F. Ball (293) 2001 — John R. Litaker (738)
 2002 — Rickey T. Matthews (27) 2003 — Walter F. McCall, PGM (530)

**Committee on Masonic Ceremonies
and Miscellaneous Publications**

A. Ed Lawing (217), *Chairman*
 J. Richard Holshouser (363) Richard E. Carter (675)
 Edward W. Bell (386)

Committee on Charters and Dispensations

Michael A. Norris (145), *Chairman*
 James A. Riggs (259) David G. Cronk (743)
 Carroll R. Melton (401) Arthur West (426)

Committee on Fraternal Correspondence

Thomas W. Gregory, PGM (27), *Chairman*

Committee on Charity

Charles E. Scott (289), *Chairman*

Committee on Credentials

Norman C. Miller, Jr. (754), *Chairman*
 George D. Greene (534) Donald A. Bennett (686)

Committee on Necrology

David R. Grissom (122), *Chairman*

Board of Publications

2002 — Eddie L. Moody, Jr. (711), *Chairman*
 2000 — J. Carroll Simmons (289) 2001 — Charles B. Patterson (700)
 2003 — Benjamin F. Smith, Jr. (117) 2004 — Donald E. Bolden (459)

Committee on Permanent Building

2001 — E. John Elmore (721), *Chairman*
 2000 — Silas T. Jordan (743) 2002 — R. Wayne Jackson (656)

**Committee on Masonic and Eastern Star
Home of North Carolina, Incorporated**

Leonard Y. Safrit, Jr. (109), *Chairman*
 Richard B. Stewart (672) John R. Terrell (453)
 Donald R. Long (113) Roy C. Harris (701)

Committee on Masonic Home for Children at Oxford, Incorporated

Charles A. Lewis, Jr. (1), *Chairman*
 Charles Ray Thomas (369) Clay E. Sorrells (446)
 Jearold L. Stiles (146) Orville W. Hooper, Jr. (672)

Accountant

David E. Scobie (40), C.P.A.

Committee on Unfinished Business

Wayne D. Walker (262), *Chairman*

Grand Master's Committee on Youth Organizations

Charles V. Rouse, Jr. (40), *Chairman*

W. Mark McClure (259)

Frank E. Silber (735)

Joshua D. Dunbar (198)

Kevin C. Hall (198)

Committee on Masonic Education

2000 — M. Gene Lewellyn (129)

2000 — Kenneth E. Lewis (751)

2000 — Dalton W. Mayo (98)

2001 — Daniel P. Weatherington (712)

2001 — David E. Webb (724)

2001 — Michael A. Brooks (711)

2002 — Hugh K. Terrell, Jr. (472)

2002 — James M. Earnhardt (543)

2002 — John W. Allen (40)

Committee on Subordinate Lodge Special Activities

2002 — M. Gene Lewellyn (129), *Chairman*

2000 — John M. Burchfield (663)

2001 — Paul L. Whitfield (728)

Committee on Masonic Public Relations

2000 — James E. Reddish (578), *Chairman*

2001 — Alvin L. Hardy (363)

2002 — Chesley M. Greene (64)

2003 — Richard A. Klein (261)

2004 — E. John Elmore (721)

Special Insurance Committee

D. Allen Surratt (404)

John O. Coan (40)

Phillip M. Hughes (717)

Grand Lodge Library Committee

Clifton W. Everett, Jr., PGM (708)

T. Walton Clapp, III, *Grand Secretary* (237)

Brian D. Edwards (521)

Frank D. Gatton (754)

Richard M. Ripley (500)

District Officers

District Deputy Grand Master	District	District Deputy District Grand Lecturer
W. Frank Wood (314)	1	Gerald Allen Burandt (7)
Stephen B. Hoggard (39)	2	Harry Jackson Stokes (104)
Randall E. Holmes (521)	3	Hyler W. Cox (328)
Harrison W. Phelps (59)	4	Johnny Marvin Smith (509)
Benjamin D. Forrest, III (475)	5	Charles M. Smithwick (243)
Robert E. Powers (359)	6	Joseph W. Buck (479)
Clayton E. Burch (568)	7	George Eden Herring (725)
William B. Ball (405)	8	Lee K. Allen (688)
Daniel G. Bishop (83)	9	Michael F. Powell (83)
Ralph V. Shipton (1)	10	Robert J. Snipes, Jr. (1)
Harry A. Fields (705)	11	James P. Wooten (132)
Genes L. Norris (658)	12	Larry D. Houston (658)
Terry T. Miller (207)	13	Lynwood Wilson Wright, Jr. (563)
James W. Melvin (501)	14	R. Glenn Capps (679)
George H. Wilson, Jr. (206)	15	Edward E. Wells (98)
Richard W. Pridgen (112)	16	George B. Aycock (112)
Herman L. Barnes, Jr. (527)	17	Donald B. Street (40)
Cicero D. Jones, II (85)	18	Samuel R. Pollard (58)
Bryan K. Lassiter (418)	19	Rufus Adam Matthews (418)
Gene W. Todd (689)	20	James Donald Cagle (2)
Dwight W. Pearce (630)	21	Isaac Hubert Williamson, Jr. (229)
Don B. King (413)	22	John William Hudson (735)
William A. Adams (609)	23	Stewart W. Pittman (740)
W. Douglas Gamber (745)	24	Norman W. Karr (701)
Richard M. Ripley (500)	25	Donald S. Alderman (735)
Charles W. Early (198)	26	Harold A. King (584)
John A. Ferrell (191)	27	Bobby F. Wellons (617)
Jesse C. Moore (147)	28	Hubert H. Warren, Jr. (147)
E. Faison Williams (679)	29	Floyd L. Trimmer (8)
David E. Guy (305)	30	Dabney S. Craddock, Jr. (532)
Walter H. McMillan (172)	31	David M. Bailey (172)
Ronald Maddox Johnson (210)	32	Herbert Currie Lyon (210)
Donald R. Long (113)	33	Bobby Gene Hancock (158)
Charles E. Clemmons (721)	34	Dorsey T. Wiggins (492)
Bennet B. Nooe (136)	35	Charles H. Marlowe, Jr. (136)
Allen D. Spain (552)	36	Carl R. Hall (76)
Jerold L. Grazier (128)	37	Arnold C. Russell (699)
Wayne R. Rummage (637)	38	James L. Wentz (348)
James E. Reddish (578)	39	Charles M. Griffin (244)
George M. Smith (261)	40	Allen E. Hardy (692)
Michael R. Davis (693)	41	Christopher Michael Owsiany (693)
Larry E. Sizemore (759)	42	Oscar Bass, Jr. (738)
Hoyle W. Wise, Jr. (720)	43	Michael Wayne Overcash (283)
Dewey R. Preslar, Jr. (576)	44	Robin Stuart McCombs (657)
Robert Bruce Wright (404)	45	Royal Sanford Jarvis (214)
James F. Fulton (167)	46	Stewart Carroll Hodges (669)
Raymond A. Parker, II (454)	47	Richard Vernon Lawson (616)
Robert S. W. Martin (134)	48	James Yoman Smith (265)
J. Richard Holshouser (363)	49	Thomas Lee Hartman (594)
Robert H. Efird (45)	50	Colonel Dwight Blackburn (483)

Ernest N. Sloan, Jr. (571)	51	Keith Bradley Rash (299)
S. Pressly Boyd, Jr. (27)	52	David Keith Potter (27)
Jacob Ray Abernathy, Jr. (606)	53	Charles Wayne Whitson (709)
James C. Abernathy (627)	54	Charles Kenneth Grissom, Jr. 590)
Victor A. Willis (704)	55	Billy J. Wiggins (704)
Charles G. Davidson (202)	56	Joe Donald Peeler, Jr. (486)
Wayne D. Walker (262)	57	John Thompson Parlier, Sr. (262)
David D. Greene (554)	58	Thomas H. Fleming (401)
Kolen Flack (91)	59	Danny Floyd Wells (535)
Claude F. Laughter (387)	60	Michael Charles Meadows (491)
John M. Burchfield (663)	61	Clay E. Sorrells (446)
S. Dean Branton (717)	62	Lee Everett Wallin (292)
Kenneth H. Pressley (386)	63	Stanley Grover Henson (472)
John O. Newman, Jr. (358)	64	Norman Dean Stephens (459)
Robert F. Wolfersteig (301)	65	Michael Lewis Morgan (301)

Emergent Communication

An Emergent Communication of the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina was held at the Hezekiah Alexander Homesite, Charlotte, North Carolina on Friday, November 5, 1999 at 4:00 P.M. with the following present:

Grand Lodge Officers

Charles M. Ingram, P.M. (13) Grand Master
 George M. Smith DDGM 40 (261) as Deputy Grand Master
 Robert K. Braswell, DDGM 42 (737) as Senior Grand Warden
 Boyd N. McGee, DDGL 40 (739) as Junior Grand Warden
 Michael R. Davis, DDGM 41 (693) as Grand Treasurer
 T. Walton Clapp, III, (237) Grand Secretary
 John W. Pope, (Senior Deacon-261) as Senior Grand Deacon
 Ted L. Conder (742) as Junior Grand Deacon
 Larry E. Sizemore, DDGL 42 (759) as Grand Marshal
 David Patrick McKenzie (261) as Grand Steward
 John Edwin Fullagar, III (261) as Grand Steward
 David C. Carriker (Secretary-261) as Grand Tyler
 H. Bland Clontz (Chaplain-261) as Grand Chaplain

Others Present

William L. Mills, III, Senior Grand Warden (32)

William G. Mathis, Junior Grand Warden (138)

Richard E. Carter, Assistant to the Grand Secretary, Editor NC Mason (675)

The Grand Lodge was opened in AMPLE FORM by M. W. Charles M. Ingram, Grand Master of Masons in North Carolina, who announced that the purpose of this Emergent Communication was to salute this historical house which is the root of Masonry in Charlotte. The opening immediately preceded the civil ceremony dedicating the cornerstone of the Freedom Bell to be installed on the grounds of the nearby Charlotte Historical Museum. Members of our Grand Lodge participated at the request of Museum officials. Also invited to participate were dignitaries from local government and Prince Hall Grand Lodge of North Carolina.

The ceremony was written by Brother Walter Klein of Excelsior Lodge No. 261. The Grand Master commented on the homestead of Hezekiah Alexander noting the Masonic emblems chiseled in the stone exterior.

The purpose for which this emergent communication was called having been accomplished, the Grand Master proceeded to close the Grand Lodge of North Carolina in AMPLE FORM.

Charles M. Ingram, Grand Master

Attest: T. Walton Clapp, III, Grand Secretary

Emergent Communications

An Emergent Communication of the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina was held in the Masonic Temple of Greensboro, Greensboro, North Carolina on Saturday, November 13, 1999 at 11:00 A.M. with the following present:

Grand Lodge Officers

Charles M. Ingram, P.M. (13) Grand Master
 Charles E. Cathey, P.M. (472) Deputy Grand Master
 Graham W. Pervier, P.M. (707) as Senior Grand Warden
 William G. Mathis, P.M. (138) Junior Grand Warden
 Richard E. Carter, P.M. (675) as Grand Secretary
 William H. Simpson, P.G.M (428) as Senior Grand Deacon

James S. Porter, P.D.D.G.M. (746) as Junior Grand Deacon
William B. Brunk, P.G.M (40) as Grand Steward
Gene T. Jernigan (206) Grand Steward
Victor S. Dowd (656) as Grand Chaplain

Others Present

W. . Allen D. Spain, District Deputy Grand Master - 36 (552)
W. . Carl R. Hall, District Deputy Grand Lecturer - 36 (76)
W. . J. Richard Holshouser, District Deputy Grand Master - 49 (363)
W. . Alvin L. Hardy, Webmaster (363)
W. . James L. Medlin, Director of Development (358)

The Grand Lodge was opened in AMPLE FORM by M. . W. . Charles M. Ingram, Grand Master of Masons in North Carolina, who announced that the purpose of this Emergent Communication was to dedicate the Care and Wellness Center at the Masonic and Eastern Star Home.

The dedication service was conducted in front of the Care and Wellness Center on the campus of the Masonic and Eastern Star Home.

The purpose of the emergent communication having been accomplished, the Grand Lodge was closed in AMPLE FORM.

Charles M. Ingram, Grand Master

Attest: Richard E. Carter, Acting Grand Secretary

First Day Morning Session

The Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina was called to order in its 213th Annual Communication in The Raleigh Civic and Convention Center, Raleigh, North Carolina on Friday, April 28th, 2000 at 10:00 A.M. by Worshipful Brother Ronald S. Page.

Presentation of Colors

Piper Dave McKenzie and the colors team from Fayetteville's Cornelius Harnet Camp Heroes of 76, National Sojourners No. 97 presented the colors.

The district deputy grand masters, the district deputy grand lecturers, distinguished guests, the past grand masters, and the Grand Lodge officers under the escort of the Grand Marshal, were received and conducted to their stations and places. There being a constitutional number of lodges represented, Grand Master Charles M. Ingram opened the Grand Lodge in ample form.

Recognition of DDGMs and DDGLs

Grand Marshal Leonard Safrit introduced the district deputy grand masters and the district deputy grand lecturers of North Carolina as a body. The Grand Master welcomed them and they were accorded private grand honors.

District Deputy Grand Masters Present

1	W. Frank Wood	314
3	Randall E. Holmes	521
4	Harrison W. Phelps	59
5	Randy G. Fussell	708
6	Robert E. Powers	359
7	Clayton E. Burch	568
8	William B. Ball	405
9	Daniel G. Bishop	83
10	Ralph V. Shipton	1
11	Harry A. Fields	705
13	Neil C. Smith	646
14	Samuel T. Smith	417
15	George H. Wilson, Jr.	206
16	Albert E. Stroud	634
17	Claude M. Faulkner	712
19	Bryan K. Lassiter	418
21	Dwight W. Pearce	630
22	Donald B. King	377
23	William A. Adams	609
24	W. Douglas Gamber	745
25	Richard M. Ripley	500
26	Charles W. Early	198
27	Thomas R. Jackson, Jr.	257
28	Jesse C. Moore	147
29	E. Faison Williams, Jr.	679
30	William P. Horne, Jr.	532
31	Walter H. McMillan	172
32	Samuel D. Vaughan, Jr.	750
34	Donald R. Long	113
36	Allen D. Spain	552
38	Barry M. Dick	703
39	James E. Reddish	578

40	George M. Smith	261
41	Michael R. Davis	693
42	Robert K. Braswell	737
43	Hoyle K. Wise, Jr.	720
44	Dewey R. Preslar, Jr.	576
45	Ray anderson	674
49	J. Richard Holshouser	363
50	Robert H. Efird	45
51	Ernest N. Sloan, Jr.	571
54	James C. Abernathy	627
55	Victor A. Willis	704
58	David D. Greene	554
60	Claude F. Laughter	387
61	John M. Burchfield	663
62	James F. Parker	170
63	John R. Terrell	453
64	John O. Newman, Jr.	358
65	Rorbert F. Wolfersteig	301

District Deputy Grand Lecturers Present

1	Joseph L. Robertson, Jr.	75
3	Hyler W. Cox	328
4	Johnny M. Smith	509
6	Joseph W. Buck	479
10	Robert J. Snipes, Jr.	1
13	Terry T. Miller	207
14	Carl T. Horne	474
15	Edward E. Wells	98
17	Donald B. Street	40
19	Rufus A. Matthews	418
21	Charlie T. Keeton, Jr.	229
23	Stewart W. Pittman	740
24	Norman W. Karr, Jr.	701
25	Donald S. Alderman	735
28	Hubert H. Warren, Jr.	147
29	Floyd L. Trimmer	8
30	Dabney S. Craddock, Jr.	532
31	David McQueen Bailey	172
32	David B. Roberts	158
34	Dorsey T. Wiggins	492
35	Charles H. Marlowe, Jr.	136
36	Carl R. Hall	76
38	James L. Wentz	348
39	Charles M. Griffin	244
40	Boyd N. McGee	739
41	Ted L. Conder	742
42	Larry E. Sizemore	759
43	Billy R. Raymer	720
44	Robin S. McCombs	657
48	James Y. Smith	265
50	C. Dwight Blackburn	483
51	Keith B. Rash	299
55	Billy J. Wiggins	704
62	Lee E. Wallin	292
63	Stanley G. Henson	472

Recognition of Distinguished Guests

The following distinguished guests were introduced by the grand

marshal, welcomed by the grand master and accorded private grand honors:

Delaware: Grand Master William T. Wadkins

Delaware: Junior Grand Warden Richard W. Aydelotte

Delaware: Junior Grand Deacon G. Thomas Taylor, III

Massachusetts: Grand Master Richard W. Burgess

Maryland: Grand Secretary Jack R. Frazier

George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association:

Board of Directors member Frank R. Dunaway Jr.

Masonic Service Association: Executive Secretary Richard E. Fletcher,
PGM, Vermont

Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite:

Grand High Priest of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of NC
Benjamin F. Smith, Jr.

Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of NC:

Grand Commander Charles Ray Thomas

Grand York Rite Bodies:

Grand Secretary-Recorder Robert A. Schafer

Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite:

Deputy of the Supreme Council, Southern Jurisdiction, USA
William B. Brunk, PGM

Shrine:

Potentate of Oasis Temple Alan W. Madsen

Representative of the Potentate of Sudan Temple

T. Bruce Boyette

Recorder of Oasis Temple W. Calvin Gaddy

Recorder of Sudan Temple Benjamin F. Smith, Jr.

Recorder of Amran Temple W. G. Arnold

Recognition of Past Grand Masters

The following past grand masters of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina were introduced by the grand marshal, welcomed by the grand master, and accorded private grand honors:

Sam A. Hennis, Jr.	1965
S. Frank Noble, Jr.	1975
Leslie H. Garner	1976
A. C. Honeycutt	1982
Norburn C. Hyatt	1985
Walter F. McCall	1986
L. R. Thomas, Jr.	1988
Bunn T. Phillips, Jr.	1990
Lester P. Martin, Jr.	1991
Ray Norris	1992
Richard G. Moore	1993
William B. Brunk	1994
Clifton W. Everett, Jr.	1995
William H. Simpson	1996
Gerry T. Smith	1997

Grand Lodge Officers Present

Charles M. Ingram	Grand Master
Charles E. Cathey	Deputy Grand Master
William L. Mills, III	Senior Grand Warden
Clifton W. Everett, Jr.	Grand Treasurer
T. Walton Clapp, III	Grand Secretary
Jerry R. Tillett	Senior Grand Deacon

Charles A. Lewis, Jr.	Junior Grand Deacon
Leonard Y. Safrut, Jr.	Grand Marshal
Graham W. Pervier	Grand Steward
Gene T. Jernigan	Grand Steward
Kenneth P. Bell	Grand Tyler
A. G. Cobb	Acting Grand Chaplain
Clarence E. Horton, Jr.	Grand Historian
Danial M. Hogue, Jr.	Grand Lecturer
Lacy H. Thornburg	Grand Orator
Ronnie Stewart	Judge Advocate

Members of Board of General Purposes Present

Charles M. Ingram (13)	Grand Master
Charles E. Cathey (472)	Deputy Grand Master
William L. Mills, III (32)	Senior Grand Warden
William G. Mathis (138)	Junior Grand Warden
Clifton W. Everett, Jr., PGM (708)	Grand Treasurer
T. Walton Clapp, III (237)	Grand Secretary, Secretary
2000-W. Berry Rigdon (472)	
2000-Larry P. Pittman (741)	
2001-H. Lloyd Wilkerson (680)	
2001-Lewis R. Ledford (27)	
2002-Lester P. Martin, Jr. (134)	
2002-Robert E. Gresham, Jr. (703)	

Members of Board of Custodians Present

Charles M. Ingram (13)	Grand Master, Ex Officio Member
Danial M. Hogue, Jr. (675)	Grand Lecturer
2000-J. Luigi Ammons (97)	Secretary
2000-Ottis R. Jefferson (109)	
2001-Thomas L. Hartman (594)	
2001-H. Gerald Grant (690)	
2002-William L. Dill (3)	
2002-James E. Vann (1)	

Representatives of Lodges Present

† denotes proxy

1 St. John's		5 Charity	
M	Kenneth West	M	Miles Cullen Davis, Jr.
SW	Kenneth West†	SW	Miles Cullen Davis, Jr.†
JW	Kenneth West†	JW	Miles Cullen Davis, Jr.†
2 Royal White Hart		7 Unanimity	
M	Denny B. Landing	M	Bryan P. Bass
SW	James M. Bohannon	SW	Bud A. Sowers
JW	Allen D. Glasgow	JW	Gladston V. McDaniel
3 St. John's		8 Phoenix	
M	Charles E. Strunk, Jr.	M	Floyd L. Butch Trimmer
SW	Thomas Franklin Janysek	SW	George M. Thompson
JW	Dale Douglas Davis†	JW	William D. Ivey
4 St. John's		10 Johnston-Caswell	
M	Thomas C. Humphrey	M	Horace Smith Shearont†
SW	Thomas C. Humphrey†	SW	Howard Short†
JW	Maurice Ray Hill, Jr.	W	Robert Stegall†

11 Caswell Brotherhood

M Michael K. Cobb
 SW Absent
 JW Absent

13 St. John's

M Kenneth P. Bell
 SW Dwayne T. Evans
 JW Snodie B. Wilson†

17 American George

M Randolph W. Whitley
 SW Carl Hunsicker
 JW Randolph Woodard Whitley†

19 Eagle

M Lloyd E. Wentler
 SW Lloyd E. Wentler†
 JW Lloyd E. Wentler†

27 Statesville

M Joseph P. Link
 SW Eric L. Purvis
 JW Raymond W. Burnette

31 Phalanx

M Warren M. Miller
 SW John H. Caudle
 JW John A. Davis

32 Stokes

M Timothy E. Smith
 SW Timothy E. Smith†
 JW Bobby W. Puckett, Jr.

39 Davie

M Clemmon W. Bridgers
 SW Anthony Roger Bracy
 JW Orrin Chester Harrell†

40 Hiram

M Joseph Transout†
 SW Leon H. Bizzell
 JW Richard G. Burley

45 Liberty

M Bob Efrid†
 SW Calvin Anderson†
 JW Absent

53 Hall

M Kenneth L. Coe
 SW Wayne R. Lambertson
 JW Clayton D. Riggs†

58 Concord

M Randy B. Pollard
 SW Carl W. Jewett
 JW John H. Harris

59 Perseverance

M Luther C. Jett, Jr.
 SW Luther C. Jett, Jr†
 JW Donald Jackson Potter

64 Kilwinning

M Robert A. Dugas
 SW Robert W. Lee
 JW Robert W. Lee†

75 Widow's Son

M Absent
 SW Absent
 JW Absent

76 Greensboro

M Curtis S. Sellers
 SW Carl Ray Hall†
 JW Douglas R. Bolen

81 Zion

M Ernest F. Andrews
 SW Ernest F. Andrews†
 JW Ricky L. Hawkins

83 LaFayette

M George Dodds, Jr.
 SW William Bredigkeit
 JW James Yates

84 Fellowship

M Matthew L. Casey
 SW James E. Thornton
 JW Marvin I. Libby

85 Morning Star

M John Hart Eaton†
 SW John Hart Eaton
 JW John Hart Eaton†

90 Skewarkee

M Edward E. Mobley
 SW Richard G. Whitfield
 JW F. E. Oglesby†

91 Western Star

M Kolen Flack†
 SW Paul H. Lane
 JW Charles W. Gowan

92 Joseph Warren

M Kris E. Radford
 SW Brad A. Alabaster
 JW Buddy Laumann†

95 Jerusalem

M John I. Whitfield†
 SW John I. Whitfield†
 JW John I. Whitfield†

97 Millbrook

M Thomas V. Fahnestock, Jr.
 SW Nelson Henthorn†
 JW Nelson Henthorn†

98 Hiram

M Edward E. Wells
 SW Jeffrey A. Shipp
 JW Edward Earl Well†

99 Fulton

M Richard W. Arey, Jr.
SW Alan Amersent†
JW Marty R. Basinger

102 Columbus

M Gary L. Blankenship
SW Donald L. Jordan
JW Marshall T. Hinnant

104 Orr

M Jasper Rober McRoy†
SW Jasper Rober McRoy†
JW Harry Jackson Stokes†

106 Perquimans

M George R. Gause, Jr.
SW Walker H. Rayburn
JW Allen Lassiter†

109 Franklin

M Ottis R. Jefferson, Jr.†
SW Asa B. Buck, III
JW James M. Lewis†

112 Wayne

M Larry Ray Edmundson†
SW Gary M. Scott
JW John R. Franks

113 Person

M Wallace R. Bradsher, Jr.
SW Lamar B. Winstead
JW Wallace R. Bradsher, Jr.†

114 St. Alban's

M James T. Paul
SW Durham E. Lewis, Jr.
JW Benjamin H. Blake†

115 Holly Springs

M David Tollefson†
SW Absent
JW David Tollefson†

117 Mount Lebanon

M Ralph A. Ellis
SW Donald Hawley†
JW James S. Howard

118 Mount Hermon

M James P. Henderson
SW Kenneth B. Lance†
JW Kenneth B. Lance†

122 Oxford

M Wayne D. Roberson†
SW Wayne D. Roberson
JW William S. Cannada

123 Franklinton

M Ryland Grissom
SW Kenneth Edwards
JW Joseph West

125 Mill Creek

M Henry J. Cook
SW Ralph Weaver†
JW Donald Chittenden

126 Gatesville

M Emmett E. Benton†
SW Delton Eure, Proxy for SW
JW Emmett E. Benton†

127 Blackmer

M Randy Owens†
SW Randy Owens†
JW Danny E. Blake, Jr.

128 Hanks

M Phillip E. Matthews
SW Phillip E. Matthews†
JW Billy M. Phillips

129 Dan River

M Robert S. Wyatt
SW Timothy L. Wheeler
JW Michael T. Boyte

132 Radiance

M Bennie J. Heath
SW John S. Harris
JW Dana D. Hill

134 Mocksville

M Absent
SW Absent
JW Absent

136 Leaksville

M Howard L. Smith, III
SW Howard L. Smith, III†
JW Charles L. Denney

137 Lincoln

M Terry L. Smith
SW Al Tate†
JW Terry L. Smith†

138 King Solomon

M James W. Connor
SW Paul L. Casey
JW Sidney R. Wells

143 Mount Vernon

M Robert A. Smith
SW Robert A. Smith†
JW Robert A. Smith†

145 Junaluskee

M Michael A. Norris
SW James D. Taylor
JW Rutherford H. Snyder, Jr.

146 Cherokee

M Absent
SW Robert K. Clayton
JW Absent

147 Palmyra

M Clarence E. McLamb, Jr.
 SW Clarence E. McLamb, Jr.†
 JW Clarence E. McLamb, Jr.†

149 Adoniram

M Thomas W. Winston†
 SW Thomas W. Winston
 JW Thomas W. Winston†

150 Pee Dee

M Eli Lowder†
 SW Eli Lowder†
 JW Eli Lowder†

151 Sanford

M John W. Lester
 SW John J. Bradley
 JW John W. Lester†

154 Scotch Ireland

M Billy R. McIntosh
 SW Jeffery L. Stiller
 JW Ted M. Miller

155 White Stone

M Jerry Eason
 SW Robert E. Pearce
 JW Larry R. Beddingfield

158 Knap of Reeds

M Robert E. Porter
 SW Willard C. Flintom
 JW Robert A. Haun, Jr.†

162 Yadkin

M Charles A. Lahr
 SW William R. Oliver
 JW Gordon K. Myers

165 Archer

M E.J. Corbett†
 SW E.J. Corbett†
 JW Roy Vinson†

167 Winston

M Charlie G. Pritchard
 SW Charles H. White†
 JW Thomas E. Hendrick

170 Blackmer

M Richard K. Garrison
 SW Johnny G. Dillingham
 JW Michael R. Silver

172 Buffalo

M Aubrey L. F. Hall
 SW Ronald W. Perine
 JW Charles F. Branch

176 Williams

M Ruben McIntosh†
 SW Darin T. McIntosh
 JW Lyman B. McLawhon

181 Carthage

M James R. Sullivan, Jr.
 SW Craig W. Goodnight
 JW Charles G. Patterson, Jr.

187 Central Cross

M Jay A. Stancil
 SW Charlie L. Vester
 JW Lee Vester†

188 Balfour

M William H. Russell
 SW F. Charlie Smith†
 JW William H. Russell†

190 Fair Bluff

M Ronnie M. Hinson
 SW Lloyd G. Shepherd
 JW Russell Meares†

191 Granite

M David G. Satterfield, Jr.
 SW Frank Gillespie†
 JW Ronald D. Murdock

198 Cary

M Charles F. English
 SW Forrest R. Cannady
 JW Thomas C. Stephenson

202 Cleveland

M Donald E. Conn
 SW Donald E. Barkley
 JW Donald E. Conn†

203 Roanoke

M Absent
 SW Absent
 JW Absent

205 Long Creek

M Charles G. Burgess
 SW Curtis C. Buchanan
 JW Marty Meade†

206 Mingo

M James B. Hardison
 SW James C. Williams
 JW James S. Tew

20 Lebanon

M Terry Miller†
 SW Terry Miller†
 JW Terry Miller†

208 Mount Olive

M Tony L. Winstead
 SW Robert J. Tooley, Jr.
 JW Tony L. Winstead†

210 Eno

M Hubert C. Lyon†
 SW David H. Minshall
 JW Robert M. Dearing

214 Thomasville

M Timothy H. Hedrick
SW Michael L. Clark
JW Kenneth W. Swaim

217 Catawba Valley

M Billy D. Poteat
SW Ray N. Anderson†
JW Jonathan R. Digh

218 William G. Hill

M L. Richard Chrisawn†
SW L. Richard Chrisawn
JW L. Richard Chrisawn†

226 Olin

M William Franklin Mitchell†
SW William Franklin Mitchell†
JW William Franklin Mitchell†

229 Henderson

M Nathan L. Lewis
SW I. Wayne Gray
JW T. Dale Matthews

230 Corinthian

M John A. Dinan
SW J. Henry Lancaster†
JW Joseph T. Fuller†

231 William T. Bain

M William M. Rue
SW Charles L. Walton†
JW Linwood T. Hicks†

233 Lenoir

M David A. Letchworth
SW Jack R. Sutton
JW Larry L. Rogers

237 Mystic Tie

M Michael A. Thompson†
SW Carol Davis†
JW Fred Alexander†

240 Wiccacon

M Thomas G. Pearce
SW Graham Pearce†
JW Graham Pearce†

243 Grifton

M Henry R. Lewis, Jr.
SW E.F. Albritton†
JW Bob Midgett†

244 Monroe

M Michael R. Medlin
SW Timothy R. Moore
JW Doug Moore†

248 Catawba

M Randy Sharpe
SW Marc T. Frey
JW Randy Sharpe†

249 Pythagoras

M Carl V. Gregory†
SW Carl V. Gregory
JW Morris C. Dyckman

253 Lee

M John C. Smith
SW C. Dale Killian
JW Fred L. Barkley

257 Kenly

M Thomas R. Jackson, Jr.†
SW Thomas R. Jackson, Jr.†
JW Thomas R. Jackson, Jr.†

258 Fuquay

M Donald Gene Cotton
SW Donald G. Cotton
JW Horace L. Ausley†

259 Waynesville

M Bobby G. Allen
SW William M. McClure
JW Dwayne Vinson Burrest†

261 Excelsior

M James A. Ploger
SW Ronald S. Walker
JW John W. Pope

262 Hibriten

M Wayne D. Walkert†
SW Wayne D. Walkert†
JW Wayne D. Walkert†

263 Gaston

M Jeffery M. Falls
SW Chuck Webb†
JW Mike L. McGinnis

265 Farmington

M Francis E. Hunter
SW Absent
JW Robert W. Boger

267 Dunn's Rock

M Timothy C. Waldrop
SW Gregory A. Hatten
JW Absent

271 Tabasco

M Jesse E. Warrick, Jr.†
SW Jesse E. Warrick, Jr.
JW Jesse E. Warrick, Jr.†

272 Bingham

M Absent
SW William T. Sutton
JW Monty C. Freshwater

276 Beaver Dam

M Douglas B. High, Jr.
SW Gary R. Hall
JW Absent

277 Green Level

M George S. Bickel
SW Todd C. Hux
JW Michael J. Johnson

279 Rehoboth

M Absent
SW Absent
JW Absent

282 Wake Forest

M Louis F. McAlister
SW Jerry G. Warren
JW Robert E. Hall

283 Eureka

M William L. Comer
SW Marvin W. Safrit
JW Ronald G. Riddle

284 Greenville

M Herbert W. Wheless
SW Norman C. Brooks
JW Herbert W. Wheless†

289 Salem

M David C. Simmons
SW John A. Hulla, Jr.
JW Robert C. Thornton, Jr.

292 French Broad

M Jeter Cantrell†
SW James A. Craine
JW Joseph E. Stewart

293 Vance

M Anthony M. Ingle
SW David R. Stewart
JW David R. Stewart†

294 Atlantic

M Dannie L. Simpson
SW Darren K. Armstrong
JW Danny L. Simpson†

296 Stonewall

M Absent
SW Absent
JW Absent

299 Harmony

M David B. Cope
SW John W. Dobson
JW Neal H. Coulter

300 Aurora

M Charles L. Smith
SW Absent
JW Absent

301 Clay

M Noel C. Galloway
SW George Webbert
JW Robert F. Wolfersteigt

302 Lillington

M Terry E. Byrd
SW Paul E. Griffin
JW James B. Brown, Jr.

304 Pleasant Hill

M Richard C. Stroud, Jr.
SW Johnnie P. Harper
JW Calvin Coolidge Turnert

305 Laurinburg

M Kelvin B. Howell
SW Joffery W. Smith, Jr.
JW Charlie Buffkin

306 Raeford

M Joseph N. Speight
SW James L. Bradley
JW Charles R. Wilson

314 New Lebanon

M Robert L. Bass, Jr.
SW Michael E. Becker
JW Randy W. Williams

317 Eureka

M Donald R. Balance
SW Charles M. Bright
JW Charles R. Meads

319 Wilmington

M Hovie W. Pope, Jr.
SW Steven C. Morton
JW E. Bryan Chadwick

320 Selma

M Harry E. Greenet
SW James F. Gray
JW Harry E. Greenet

322 Granite

M Barry W. Boyles
SW William M. Payne
JW Marshall A. Whitt, Jr.

328 Mattamuskeet

M H. Wayne Cox†
SW H. Wayne Cox
JW H. Wayne Cox†

331 Bayboro

M Miles H. Purser
SW Osborn L. Scott
JW Terry Christopher Gordont

339 Fairview

M Alvin E. Yarbro, Jr.
SW Absent
JW Absent

340 Harmony

M Randy L. Murphy
SW David C. Gardner
JW James E. Jones

343 Hickory		377 Youngsville	
M	Howard W. Walker	M	Dallas T. Glover
SW	Johnny W. Davidson, Jr.	SW	William S. Tucker
JW	Michael D. Hale	JW	Steve Tucker†
344 Numa F. Reid		378 Seaboard	
M	Harry M. Rinehart	M	R.V. Harris, II†
SW	Joseph A. Grant	SW	M.T. Flythe†
JW	Larry R. Wall	JW	James F. Flythe
348 Stanly		379 Coharie	
M	Jeffery A. Chance	M	William K. Naylor
SW	Thomas Arthur Mauldint†	SW	Ronald D. Hedgepath
JW	Christopher J. Miller	JW	William Kieth Naylor†
352 Durham		380 Granville	
M	Timothy M. Williams	M	Joseph P. Price†
SW	Joseph M. Wilson, Jr.	SW	Henry A. Lowery
JW	Lonny L. Kylander	JW	Alexander Milligan
356 Fallston		381 Forest City	
M	John C. Wehunt	M	Robert J. Powell†
SW	Cutler S. Dillon	SW	George O. Allen
JW	John C. Wehunt†	JW	Bryan H. Branch
357 Bakersville		384 Jefferson Penn	
M	Christopher A. Campbell	M	Absent
SW	Paul Bennett, Proxy for SW	SW	Absent
JW	Charley Hensley†	JW	Absent
358 East LaPorte		386 Pigeon River	
M	Ronald G. Story	M	Kenneth Pressley†
SW	James L. Medlin†	SW	Bobby C. Paxton
JW	James B. Woods	JW	Charles Karriker†
359 Mount Vernon		387 Kedron	
M	Jay A. Collins	M	Sam S. Settle
SW	Absent	SW	Paul R. Hoots
JW	Hally B. Tyson	JW	Blaine V. King
363 Snow		388 Friendship	
M	Richard L. Elmore	M	Joseph D. Brooks
SW	Dolphus N. Lyons, Jr.	SW	Absent
JW	Alvin L. Hardy	JW	Otha W. Bridges
369 Gastonia		390 Copeland	
M	James G. Brown	M	Jackson S. McCormick
SW	Charles Ray Thomast†	SW	Roy LaVerne Smith†
JW	Marshall Dilling†	JW	James Oliver Hudson†
373 Ashler		391 Lebanon	
M	Donald E. Stewart	M	W. Michael Fulk
SW	Alvin D. Trivette	SW	Charles L. Goff
JW	E. H. Greene†	JW	James W. Ard
374 Campbell		395 Orient	
M	Samuel A. Brown, Jr.	M	Evangelos J. Fragos
SW	Samuel A. Brown, Jr.†	SW	Robert C. Prevatte
JW	Samuel A. Brown, Jr.†	JW	Douglas B. Whitley
375 State Line		397 Bald Creek	
M	J.T. Thrift†	M	Mack L. Whitson†
SW	Herman Weaver†	SW	Earl Joe Roberts†
JW	Gary Barnes†	JW	Mack L. Whitson

401 Joppa

M Clifford M. Boone
 SW Billy L. Thomas
 JW Carroll R. Meltent†

403 Siler City

M Robert P. Patrick
 SW William D. Marsh
 JW Richard Drayton Peter†

404 Denton

M Eddie N. Morrow
 SW Bruce Wright†
 JW Eugene Hughes†

405 Ocean

M Larry T. Lewis
 SW David B. Guyton†
 JW Larry Thomas Lewis†

407 North Wilkesboro

M Absent
 SW Absent
 JW Absent

408 University

M William S. Aldridge, III
 SW Albert M. Jones
 JW Joseph L. Jackson

409 Bula

M Absent
 SW Absent
 JW Absent

411 Bailey

M Absent
 SW Absent
 JW Absent

412 Henry F. Grainger

M Jack Watkins
 SW James E. Robertson
 JW James E. Robertson†

413 James A. Johnson

M Edgerton L. Watson, Jr.
 SW Edgerton L. Watson, Jr.†
 JW Edgerton L. Watson, Jr.†

417 Maxton

M Gary A. Blue
 SW William McRae†
 JW James M. Jones

418 Pendleton

M Rufus A. Matthews
 SW Bryan Lassiter†
 JW Carroll E. Futrell

420 Harmon

M Lawrence W. Getgen
 SW Teddy M. Ashley
 JW Michael A. Spillman

423 Sparta

M Allan D. Shaw
 SW Andy M. Royall, Jr.
 JW Gerald W. Leftwich†

426 Montgomery

M James O. Murphy
 SW Clarence L. Little
 JW James O. Murphy†

427 Oconee

M William R. Howell
 SW William R. Howell†
 JW William R. Howell†

428 Stokesdale

M Archie L. McGee
 SW Kenneth P. Simpson
 JW Theodore O. Wright

429 Seaside

M Stephen H. Smith
 SW Edward R. Provost, Jr.
 JW Charles E. Holland

431 Relief

M William G. Ireland
 SW Fred T. Raynor
 JW Kevin D. Hardison

432 Piney Creek

M Ronnie G. Hale
 SW Ronnie G. Hale†
 JW Ronnie G. Hale†

433 Vanceboro

M John H. Lilly
 SW James L. Downs
 JW William A. Haddock†

434 West Bend

M R. Leonard Snyder, III
 SW Roger B. Gough
 JW R. Leonard Snyder, III†

435 Blue Ridge

M Harold N. Neely
 SW Dennis Lee Hurst†
 JW John D. Cashion

437 Biscoe

M Paul R. McLeod
 M David W. Parsons
 JW James W. Lemons

439 Marble Springs

M Audy L. James
 SW Michell B. Arrowwood
 JW Michell B. Arrowwood†

444 Marietta

M Michael R. Cox, Sr.
 SW Paul J. Cox
 JW Absent

446 Biltmore

M Larry L. Bishop
SW Marshall J. Vebaun
JW Thomas A. Jones

447 Enfield

M Charles C. Couch
SW Kesler Askew, Jr.
JW Albert P. Coltrain†

453 Clyde

M James A. Carlost†
SW Robert J. Vehe, Jr.
JW Cecil G. Negham†

454 Elkin

M Kevin K. Carter
SW Tony M. Holbrook
JW Maxie B. Spain, Jr.

459 Dillsboro

M Gary M. Todt†
SW Edwin Dennis Miller
JW Gary M. Todt

460 Cliffside

M Jack H. Huskey
SW J. Gary Horn
JW R. Rodney Summer

461 Matthews

M Olin Tweed Flowe†
SW Edward Marvin Noles†
JW Franklin E. Hinson, Jr.

462 South Fork

M Kenneth W. Revelst†
SW Kenneth W. Revels
JW Kenneth W. Revelst†

463 Currituck

M Billy W. Willist†
SW Stephen K. Evans
JW William F. Pugh

471 Grassy Knob

M Absent
SW Absent
JW Absent

472 Sonoma

M Stanley G. Henson
SW Stanley G. Henson†
JW Stanley G. Henson†

473 Lexington

M Ervin W. Allen, Jr.
SW Edward M. Athay
JW Gary W. Bennett

474 St. Pauls

M Weldon D. Robinson
SW Teddy O. Muse
JW J. Delvin Herring

475 Grimesland

M Paul D. Banta
SW Paul D. Banta†
JW Lyman L. Edwards

479 Rainbow

M Henry T. Banks
SW Henry T. Banks†
JW Glenwood T. Tyndall, Jr.†

482 Saluda

M Stephen J. Doten
SW Terrell D. Hoots
JW Jamie A. Thompson

483 Traphill

M Phillip R. Church
SW Alvin C. Gambill
JW James M. Keeper

484 Southern Pines

M George W. Lamb
SW Charles Brewer†
JW Beadie Lambet†

486 Lawndale

M Absent
SW Absent
JW Absent

488 Rich Square

M Arthur Lee Horton†
SW Arthur Lee Horton†
JW Arthur Lee Horton†

489 Linville

M Absent
SW Absent
JW Absent

491 Hominy

M Terry L. Gentry
SW Terry L. Gentry†
JW Terry L. Gentry†

492 Thomas M. Holt

M Roy H. Duffer
SW Roy H. Duffer†
JW D. Thomas Wiggins†

493 Pilot

M Billy G. Brim, Jr.
SW Albert F. Meijboom
JW Dyck D. Garrison†

495 Rockingham

M Lewis C. Smith, Jr.
SW Forrest G. McBryde, Jr.
JW Donald R. Denney

496 Mooresville

M William M. Blackwelder†
SW Timothy Z. Cook
JW Timothy Z. Cook

497 Royal Hart

M Harlan J. Gardiner
SW James A. Moseley
JW Roy D. Spain

498 Ayden

M Lauren Neal Sumrell†
SW Robert W. Smith
JW James E. Jenkins

499 Creedmoor

M Donald E. Johnson
SW Kelly W. James
JW Charles L. Phipps, Jr.

500 Raleigh

M Roy H. Beasley
SW Yolando A. Taylor
JW Gene Jordan†

501 Red Springs

M Philip W. Smith
SW John T. Seago, Jr.
JW James W. Melvin†

502 Cookeville

M Michael R. Warlick
SW Absent
JW Absent

505 Cherryville

M Jerry R. Walkert†
SW Jerry R. Walker
JW Wayne Black†

509 Belhaven

M Oran M. Benson, Jr.†
SW Oran M. Benson, Jr.†
JW Oran M. Benson, Jr.

515 Whetstone

M Thomas S. Canipe
SW Brent Boone†
JW Eric Dixon†

517 Farmville

M John M. Howell†
SW Alan G. Lilley
JW

519 Widow's Son

M Absent
SW Absent
JW Absent

520 Fairfield

M Paul Norrist†
SW Paul Norrist†
JW Paul Norrist†

521 Manteo

M Brian Dean Edwards†
SW Jerry O. Combs
JW Randell E. Holmes†

525 Rodgers

M Larry D. Richardson
SW James D. Davis, Jr.
JW Daryl R. Davis

527 Lucama

M Absent
SW Absent
JW Absent

528 Fairmont

M James F. Wilkerson
SW Robert L. Capps
JW Robert L. Capps†

529 Andrews

M Charles S. Freel
SW Odis E. Adams
JW Charles S. Freel†

530 Joppa

M John P. Kiersonski
SW Neil F. Crossley
JW H. Kent Schevlin

532 Hamlet

M Samuel Rankin Ballard, Jr.†
SW Wilson A. Ramsey
JW John R. Hamrick

534 Camp Call

M James D. Glover
SW Don Green†
JW Bob Russ

535 Hollis

M Marvin C. Melton
SW Jasper L. Yelton
JW Steven L. Walker

542 Corinthian

M Edward H. Marsh
SW Edd R. Little
JW Edward H. Marsh†

543 Spencer

M Reginald J. Hall, Jr.
SW John Robert Hatley†
JW James Monroe Earnhardt†

544 Mount Holly

M Phillip D. Sparrow
SW Timothy S. Cauthen
JW Jerry Lee Lamberth†

550 Roman Eagle

M Luther J. Camp
SW Jerry R. Wilson
JW Cecil T. Brewer

551 Glenville

M Broward P. Davis
SW Broward P. Davist
JW Broward P. Davist

552 Revolution

M Howell G. Wagner
SW James B. Frye†
JW Louis D. Tysor

554 Vesper

M Jonathan M. Silver
SW James H. Phillips
JW Toby A. Crowder

555 Elise

M Henry B. Craven
SW R. L. Browe†
JW Roger D. Lemonds

556 Neill S. Stewart

M William D. Williams
SW Sherrill W. Glover
JW Robert A. Wilson

558 Ararat

M Absent
SW Absent
JW Absent

561 Swannanoa

M David L. Perkins
SW Craig Denver Beasley†
JW Craig Denver Beasley†

562 Waxhaw

M Absent
SW Absent
JW Absent

563 Tabor

M Charles D. Bullock
SW Charles D. Bullock†
JW Michael L. Norris

564 Richlands

M James R. Beddard
SW Starkey S. Shaw†
JW Earnest B. Hall

565 Wendell

M James H. Baker, Jr.
SW George H. Thornton
JW Rodney Brown†

568 Doric

M Elmer Ray Burroughs†
SW William B. Miller†
JW George W. Lindquist, Jr.

571 Snow Creek

M Alfred W. Johnson
SW Jerry Gatton, Proxy for SW
JW Alfred W. Johnson†

573 Mount Pleasant

M Stephen C. Cabe
SW Tommy Livingston†
JW Aaron Bill Caudill†

576 Andrew Jackson

M John W. Jones
SW John E. Wagoner
JW Thomas M. Cohen

578 Meadow Branch

M Joseph C. Moore
SW Richard C. Williamst†
JW Absent

579 Casar

M John W. Hunt†
SW John W. Hunt
JW Billy J. Downs

583 Ionic

M James A. Zirnheld
SW Robert P. Bullard
JW Franklin W. White

584 Apex

M John H. McLaughlin, II
SW John H. McLaughlin, II†
JW Charles E. Bruce

585 Roseboro

M Absent
SW Absent
JW Absent

589 Bethel

M James Wilbert Futrell†
SW James Wilbert Futrell†
JW James Wilbert Futrell†

590 Lowell

M Bradley R. Rankin
SW David G. Sloop
JW Fred A. Hallman

592 Maiden

M Jimmie R. Beal
SW Jack C. Lutz†
JW Darin L. Poovey

593 Stony Point

M David W. Godfrey
SW Michael N. Starnes
JW James D. Allen

594 Ashe

M Edward D. Paisley
SW Joey F. Thore
JW Ricky B. Eldreth

595 Wallace

M W.H. Browder†
SW Charles B. Marshburn
JW Absent

596 Waccamaw

M Gary M. Merrill
SW Angus Mercer†
JW Robert E. Duncan

598 Cranberry

M Steve W. Gouge
SW Bobby C. McLean
JW Kevin D. Greene

602 Queen City

M Robert S. Flowers
SW Robert S. Flowers†
JW Robert S. Flowers†

605 Jeff L. Nelson

M Absent
SW M. Austin Bradley†
JW James D. Chatman

606 Riverside

M Cecil H. Cook, Jr.
SW Ricky W. Lee
JW Richard A. George†

607 Chadbourn

M Absent
SW Absent
JW Absent

609 Zebulon

M Rodney L. Coberly
SW Douglas Hinton†
JW Melvin Britt†

612 Atkinson

M Chris L. Lewis
SW George E. Lee
JW Allan F. Squires

613 Home

M L. Kimble Pate
SW L. Kimble Pate†
JW L. Kimble Pate†

616 Round Peak

M Ronnie C. Sprinkle
SW Howard E. Young, Jr.
JW Michael Fulk†

617 St. Patrick's

M Neil E. Epps
SW William D. Rose
JW William D. Rose†

618 Union

M Stephen A. White
SW Charles C. Greene
JW J. Kevin Greene

624 John H. Mills

M Leon N. Falkner
SW James F. Jernigan
JW James F. Jernigan†

626 Cannon Memorial

M Grady P. James
SW Clifford Pipkin†
JW Richard Secoolish†

627 Belmont

M Charles R. Silvers
SW Harold D. Horn
JW Charles R. Silverst†

629 Walnut Cove

M Robert E. Brinkley
SW Tom Grubbs†
JW Ralph M. Oakley†

630 Francis S. Packard

M Dwight W. Pearce
SW Lester H. Knight
JW Absent

634 Goldsboro

M John J. Lavin
SW William K. McArthur
JW Winford H. Dillard

637 Yadkin Falls

M Paul A. Thompson
SW Jerry M. Hudson
JW Paul A. Thompson†

643 Proctorville

M James E. Britt
SW James E. Britt†
JW James E. Britt†

646 Bladen

M Lonnie Harris
SW Ronald P. Allen, Jr.
JW Job R. Connor

650 John A. Nichols

M Absent
SW Absent
JW Absent

654 Elberta

M Absent
SW Absent
JW Absent

656 Guilford

M Terry J. Cox
SW Absent
JW Donald W. Rhoney

657 Keller Memorial

M Bradley C. Hardister
SW Bradley A. Bost
JW William F. Beachum†

658 Beulaville

M Clarence G. Thigpen, Jr.
SW Graham B. Frazelle
JW Douglas A. Turner†

663 Black Mountain

M Charles D. Reese
SW Stanley A. Reese
JW Barry O. Dotson

664 Garland

M John V. Matthews, Jr.
SW John V. Matthews, Jr.†
JW John V. Matthews, Jr.†

665 West Asheville

M Edward A. Lemon
SW Alva H. Cowan
JW Albert Jerry Yates†

667 Fort Bragg

M William F. Smith
SW Kai J. Vannoy†
JW James B. Jackson

668 Holland Memorial

M Gerald M. Sosebee
SW Joseph L. Walls
JW Absent

669 Kernersville

M Neal W. Nelson
SW Paul L. Morris†
JW Lonnie F. Rose†

670 Lovelady

M Wendell M. Powell
SW Dwayne T. Parker
JW Charles R. Watson

672 Robbinsville

M Dennis J. Sawyer
SW Dennis J. Sawyer†
JW Dennis J. Sawyer†

673 Spindale

M Jack L. Conner
SW Tom R. Lawrence
JW Mark S. Hauser

674 Acacia

M Robert E. Williams
SW Lewis J. Gallman
JW Lewis E. Williams, II

675 Washington

M Absent
SW Absent
JW Absent

676 Temple

M Charles L. Davidson
SW Donald R. Cummings
JW David M. Hackney

677 Warsaw

M Jeffrey Houston
SW Henry Gurley
JW Bizzell J. Davis

678 Providence

M Absent
SW Absent
JW Absent

679 Creasy Proctor

M Rodger A. Smitley
SW John M. Hall, Jr.
JW James H. Horne

680 Semper Fidelis

M Charles Treble
SW Thomas G. Collins
JW David L. McLaurin

681 Piedmont

M David A. Hudspeth†
SW Jim Matthews, Proxy for SW
JW David A. Hudspeth†

683 Rolesville

M Milton D. Rountree
SW John W. Blackwell
JW Jerry E. Rose

685 Pioneer

M Gilmer E. Collette, Jr.
SW Joel A. Black, Jr.
JW Joseph W. Edmonds

686 Angier

M Stanley C. Bass
SW Stanley C. Bass†
JW Stanley C. Bass†

687 Fellowship

M Horace Lane
SW Cecil J. Goodwin
JW Leroy F. Rigsbee

688 Cherry Point

M John L. Everett
SW W. Lyle Lewis
JW C.J. McQueen†

689 Scotland Neck

M James E. Drake
SW Elbert H. Phelps
JW Edward Lerou Brown†

690 Mount Moriah

M Scott E. Heath
SW Rayford J. Barnette
JW Absent

691 Renfro

M Clayton E. King, Jr.
SW Carl Whitaker†
JW Mark R. King

692 East Gate

M John E. Wakefield
SW James E. Duncan
JW Robert H. Kissiah

693 Charles M. Setzer

M Christopher M. Owsiany
SW Stephen E. Lee
JW Timothy L. Bright

694 Gate City

M Richard H. Greene
 SW Michael H. Rachael
 JW Danny B. Cox

695 Allen-Graham

M Billy R. Linker
 SW Joseph R. McWaters
 JW James R. Roberts

696 Memorial

M Robert L. Ingram
 SW Kenneth D. Fishback
 JW Larry F. Sharpe

697 Butner

M Robert W. Pearce
 SW Harry A. Conte
 JW Absent

698 Cape Hatteras

M Michael Hedrick†
 SW Douglas E. Dorris, Jr.
 JW Desmond R. Foster

699 Asheboro

M Aaron W. Strider
 SW Robert A. Graves
 JW Larry T. Luck, Jr.

700 Friendship

M James W. Slone
 SW Theophilus H. Hill, Jr.
 JW James J. Yates

701 Garner

M William J. Setzer
 SW Jimmy R. Stevens
 JW George R. Marcom

702 St. Andrew

M Harvey W. Burgess
 SW Richard C. Burgess
 JW Roger Lowery

703 Albemarle

M Charles G. Stephens, Jr.
 SW Larry G. Efird
 JW David A. Hunt

704 King Solomon

M Timothy M. Daniels
 SW Timothy M. Daniels†
 JW Thomas E. McCarthy, Jr.

705 Richard Caswell

M Barry E. Seay†
 SW Barry E. Seay†
 JW Barry E. Seay

706 Newport

M Johnnie D. Burtscher
 SW Joseph V. Mason
 JW Jerry L. Bennett

707 Forsyth

M Paul Gilgo†
 SW Charles O. Gordon, Jr.
 JW Absent

708 Crown Point

M Frank L. Brewer
 SW Kenneth R. Castania, Jr.
 JW Gregory A. Nuttall†

709 Conover

M Timothy E. Schwab
 SW Terry M. Killian
 JW Timothy E. Schwab†

710 Advance

M Kenneth R. Henderson
 JW Absent

711 Piedmont

M John W. Boner†
 SW Eugene H. Durham†
 JW Jesse T. Owens

712 Wilson

M Gary L. Langston
 SW Tony R. Ferrell
 JW Troy G. Matthews†

713 Stanley

M Heath R. Jenkins
 SW Raeford D. Lingerfelt
 JW Darrell W. Wyatt

714 Liberty

M Absent
 SW Absent
 JW Absent

715 Derita

M John F. Herrin, Jr.
 SW Thomas H. Hunt
 JW Robert A. Blackmon

717 Burnsville

M Larry D. Snyder
 SW Dean Branton†
 JW Phillip M. Hughes

718 Troy

M Hubert V. Massengill
 SW Gene Robert Griffith†
 JW Daniel Laughlin Morris†

719 Horse Creek

M Tony Grigg†
 SW Tony Grigg†
 JW Tony Grigg†

720 Cabarrus

M Steve D. Hilton
 SW Scott Furr
 JW Darrell Long†

721 Burlington

M Gregory S. Lackey
SW David B. Tuck
JW Tony Frizzelle

722 King

M Robert Jessup†
SW Jay Christian†
JW William K. Russell†

723 Winton

M Richard M. Harrell
SW Richard M. Harrell†
JW Harry B. Ward†

724 Berne

M Richard H. Milman
SW Paul W. Harrison, Jr.
JW Jimmy C. Glisson

725 Grantham

M Oswald T. Chance, Jr.
SW Roger D. Milligan
JW Edward A. Carroll

726 Keystone

M Joseph M. Griffin
SW William B. Stokes, Jr.
JW James R. Dickinson

727 Shallotte

M Samuel B. Edwards, Jr.
SW Guilford W. Bass†
JW William H. Jackson

729 Twin County

M Absent
SW Absent
JW Absent

730 Stedman

M James Hay†
SW James Hay†
JW James Hay†

731 John Huske Anderson

M Clyde F. Greene
SW Phillip H. Edney†
JW Theodore R. Brenson, Jr.†

732 Bush Hill

M Randall L. Johnson
SW Barry E. Lawrimore
JW James A. Stone

733 Stump Sound

M Sperby M. Piner, Jr.
SW Sperby M. Piner, Jr.†
JW Ronald A. Yopp, Sr.

734 William Pitt

M Stanley H. Armstrong, Jr.
SW Russell J. Warren
JW James C. Wynne

735 James B. Green

M James G. Lassiter
SW Clyde S. O'Quinn
JW Robert J. Downen

736 New River

M Samuel Foster
SW David L. Odom
JW Richard W. Fiorvanti

737 Steele Creek

M Richard E. Carver
SW Bernard E. Simmons
JW Thomas W. Moxley

738 West Gate

M John C. Votik, Jr.
SW Don A. Abernathy
JW Douglas E. Morrison

739 Newell

M Raymond L. White
SW James G. Taylor, Jr.
JW Robert C. Kistler

740 Charles B. Newcomb

M Eric T. Decker
SW Herbert O. Cox
JW Macon B. Council

741 Crissie Wright

M Alfred P. Noyes
SW Roland A. Willis
JW Arnold L. Wade

742 Mint Hill

M James B. McLaughlin
SW William M. Elliottte
JW Kenneth P. Carriker

743 J. J. Crowder

M Leslie W. Hereford
SW William S. Hayes
JW Gregory J. Gittons

744 Shelby

M Ricky A. Jones
SW Absent
JW Cicero Paul Terry†

745 Vandora

M Dennis H. Cupp
SW Paul B. Nappen
JW W.H. Hamilton†

746 P. P. Turner

M William A. Hurlburt
SW Steven C. Collins
JW James D. Church

747 Ocracoke

M Absent
SW Absent
JW Absent

749 Truth

M James R. Mills
 SW Richard L. Primm
 JW Edward G. Melito

750 Oak Grove

M Robert F. Gunter, Jr.
 SW Richard H. Perry
 JW Graham F. Fulcher

751 Old Town

M William L. Hopkins, Jr.
 SW Charlie Green Allen, Jr.†
 JW Douglas A. Bristow

752 Enterprise

M Thomas W. Allen, Jr.
 SW Richard E. Hartman
 JW Thomas W. Allen, Jr.†

753 Federal Point

M Ronald J. Perryman
 SW Absent
 JW Ronald J. Perryman†

754 Masters

M John A. Gatton
 SW Michael S. McDonald
 JW Donald L. Tew

755 Clemmons

M Gregory F. Key
 SW Larry D. Holloman
 JW Brent J. Higgins

756 Clifford Duell

M Sammie D. McMinn
 SW James C. Peterson
 JW James C. Peterson†

757 Denver

M William C. Edwards
 SW William B. Henderson
 JW Robert W. Womack

758 Oak Island

M Robert L. McCarter, Jr.
 SW Lindsey T. Darnell
 JW Harold R. Hoy, Jr.

759 James K. Polk

M Brian P. Talley
 SW Warren E. Dover
 JW Randolph S. Richardson

Address of the Grand Orator

(Docket No. 1)

The Grand Master presented Lacy H. Thornburg, Grand Orator of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina, who delivered the following oration:

Most Worshipful Grand Master and Brethren:

I am honored to be given the opportunity to address this 213th Annual Communication of The Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina. I am particularly honored to share this event with you as we open the new millennium in Freemasonry here in North Carolina; so as we enter this new millennium, let us determine that Freemasonry will be better served in coming years as a result of our good works today.

I am excited by the members and the quality of the leaders I see here assembled today. Certainly no task is too great to conquer or goal too far removed to be achieved by this group. We gather on this occasion to once again commit ourselves to promoting the good works of freemasonry. We stand together to help others find meaning and purpose in life and provide succor to the widows and orphans. We are a brotherhood of men who believe in a Supreme Being, the Creator of the Universe, and the equality of mankind. Masons as a brotherhood seek to live the admonition set forth in our Declaration of Independence, which teaches "that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

In giving meaning to these words, we have not been neglectful. This State and this nation abound with examples of Masonic generosity. In North Carolina, our flagship example is our Masonic Home for Children at Oxford. We provide this service for these children in the knowledge that we can meet a serious need for the kind of care and training we afford through this facility. We support the Masonic and Eastern Star home in Greensboro which provides lodging and facilities for our senior citizens. We provide some of the world's best medical care for burn victims and others through our Shriner's Hospitals. We have learning disability programs and York Rite charities. The list could go on and include among other things the countless good deeds done each day by Masons around this State. We don't ask for credit, we just get the job done. True to our State motto, we strive "to be rather than to seem." In short, we have earned the wonderful reputation we now enjoy in this State as Freemasons.

So it is with this history of service and brotherhood in mind that I want to make a few gratuitous remarks about an issue that seems to be causing serious differences of opinion among our members. And coming as I do from the State as well as the Federal bench, I am no stranger to the siren song of racial divisions. So, let me give you some personal background.

Five years ago, I was nominated to the Federal bench by President Clinton. My nomination was supported by my two good friends, Senator Helms and then Senator Faircloth, both of whom attended my committee hearing and urged my confirmation. A few days after the hearing, I received a phone call. A member of the committee who had not attended the hearing had requested that I furnish a copy of the charter and bylaws of my Blue Lodge. There seemed to be some thinking that I was a member of a secret society which discriminated on the basis of race in choosing its membership. I complied with the request, furnished the documents, and assured the person seeking the information that the Dillsboro Lodge No. 459 had never had such a policy, though to my knowledge, we had no black members. After another waiting period, the objection apparently was withdrawn; and thanks to the efforts of my two Senators, my nomination was confirmed—

I think by unanimous vote of the Senate. At the time, I was aware of Brother Dave Sentelle's somewhat similar experience.

This also brought to mind a contact by one of our State's largest newspapers when I was Attorney General asking if we had a "no blacks" admission policy to our Children's Home at Oxford. Again, I stated not to my knowledge, and I then verified this with our Grand Secretary whom I believe at the time was Brother Clapp. In any event, I heard no more from either inquiry. Since that time, it is my information that race is not a factor in admission and that minority children have been admitted. Be that as it may, the experiences immediately brought the issue of race to my attention in the context of my Masonic commitment. I was not asked and would never have considered withdrawing from masonry.

In addition to these two experiences, I now regularly deal with disputes involving race in a variety of cases such as wage and hiring practices, public facility use, etc. As I try to do justice in the handling of these cases and turn to the State and Federal Codes, the volumes of case law, the innumerable briefs, and the totality of countless pages of analysis dealing with the subject, I look at a cartoon I keep framed behind my desk. It pictures the two Bob Traves' characters, Frank and Ernest, standing before a huge library of law books. Frank turns to Ernest and says, "Its frightening when you think that we started with just the Ten Commandments."

The law has indeed mushroomed in quantity; and those of us in the legal profession hope it has done so in quality. But to me, the question of Prince Hall recognition should be resolved not by esoteric principles of law but rather by simple application of the "do right rule." What is the right response of our Blue Lodges and thus the Grand Lodge? As for me, the answer to the question of recognition is yes.

This question begs that each of **you** search **your** hearts and minds for the correct answer. When you do this, I believe your answer will comply with the rule of law and the declaration of our forefathers that all men are truly created equal in their relationships with one another.

When I instruct jurors on applicable law at the close of a case, and they return into court saying they can't agree on a verdict, I instruct along these lines: It is not anticipated that you will all be of the same mind as to what your answer should be when you enter the jury room. You should consult with one another and deliberate with a view to reaching an agreement. If you are in the majority, listen to the minority. If you are in the minority, listen to the majority. While each of you must decide the question for himself, this should be done only after a fair and impartial consideration of the views of your fellow jurors. In the course of your deliberations, you should not hesitate to examine your views and change your opinion if convinced for whatever reason that you should do so. So I ask you to listen together, reason together and think together in your effort to reach the right conclusion. This issue must be addressed for the good of our craft. No finer group of men than you can ever be assembled to deliver that response.

Over the centuries Freemasonry has been alive and well in this country. In 1975 it was estimated that one in every twelve men in the United States was a Freemason. We are challenged once again to restore these numbers. The Grand Lodge must provide the leadership to achieve this goal. We can boast of having provided this country and the world with such outstanding leaders as the father of our country, George Washington, and other presidents such as Andrew Jackson and Harry Truman, famous person such as Franklin, Mozart and Voltaire, and leaders in virtually every known business and endeavor. In North Carolina, the leadership roster has been the same right down to present day. I can personally think of many. Included in that number would be my good friend, Jimmy Brewer, who is no longer with us. These leaders past and present were Masons by choice and

most by practice as well. They believed in and practiced the tenets of Freemasonry which have endured over the centuries. We are constant in our aims to promote brotherhood and morality among our members. We have succeeded through the years in bringing together men of varied beliefs and opinions. We must continue in this commitment.

A Masonic working tool is the trowel. According to Bahnson: "We are taught to make use of it for the noble and glorious purpose of spreading the cement which unites us into one sacred band or society of friends and brothers among whom no contentions should ever exist, but that noble contention, or rather emulation, of who can best work and best agree." Brothers, I say such a goal can only make good men better.

We cannot fall prey to what some consider a wave of cynicism that seems to engulf our nation. We should instead seek to revive a new spirit of national pride and patriotism in all our citizens. We should use our energy to create new interest in Freemasonry among the thousands in this State who would make outstanding brothers in the craft. After all, we are members of one of the largest and oldest fraternal organizations in the world. The good that we do in working together should never be diminished or endangered by factional differences that can and should be resolved.

I was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason on May 12, 1960, in Dillsboro Lodge No. 459 at Sylva. I continued my advance degree work through the Scottish Rite 32° in the early 60's. I have visited in several lodges across the state and enjoyed my Shrine activities. In all, I have always been proud to be a Mason. I hope each of you feel the same way. Keep up the good work you now do, and strive to do an even better job on the morrow.

Allow me to close with a benediction given to me by a friend and lawyer many years ago:

May the good Lord bless you and keep you;

May He make His face to shine upon you and

May He one day admit you to the high court of heaven without need for preliminary hearing, or bond being required.

Thank you and have a successful communication.

Lacy H. Thornburg
Grand Orator

Grand Treasurer's Report

(Docket No. 2)

The following report of the Grand Treasurer was received, entered on the record and referred to the Committee on Finance.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

I submit my report of the Grand Treasurer for the year ending December 31, 1999. Included in this report is the total receipts and disbursements, special funds, and the securities held by this Grand Lodge.

December 31, 1999

Total Funds available 1-1-99 (General Funds and Special Funds)

		\$562,869.33
RECEIPTS YTD	855,610.79	
Total Income		855,610.79
Total Disbursements YTD	<u>726,655.43</u>	
		726,655.43

Total Cash to be accounted

\$691,824.69

Securities	Amount	Issue Date	Maturity	Rate
Petty Cash	100.00			
First Citizens	223,492.38			
Fidelity Bank	100,000.00	9/14/99	9/14/00	5.60%
Capital Bank	100,000.00	2/17/99	3/17/00	5.16%
New South Bank	50,000.00	1/14/99	1/14/00	5.12%
New South Bank	50,000.00	02/01/99	02/01/00	5.12%
Centura Bank	100,000.00	09/03/99	02/25/00	5.54%
Nationsbank	0.00	02/19/99	10/19/99	4.60%
BB&T	0.00	02/17/99	11/17/99	4.95%
Crescent Bank (cc acct)	1,007.01		n/a	n/a
NBC Bank	5,042.10		n/a	Vari
Triangle Bank	<u>62,183.20</u>		n/a	Vari
Total	<u>\$691,824.69</u>			

SPECIAL FUNDS SUMMARY

	1/1/99	12/31/99
Special Contingency Reserve	170,561.39	179,089.39
Emblems and Awards Reserve	8,683.51	8,683.51
Automobile Reserve	10,767.89	10,249.54
Book Reserve	78,601.33	117,971.41
Building Reserve	30,733.27	36,325.83
Office Reserve	9,956.23	12,419.79
Development Fund	10,592.68	1,506.71
Disaster Relief	63,769.75	103,961.96
Charity Fund	30,751.05	29,048.05
Perm. Fund - Endowed Membership	<u>0.00</u>	<u>15,044.44</u>
Total Special Funds	<u>\$414,417.10</u>	<u>\$514,300.63</u>

Total Special Funds 12/31/99

514,300.63

Total General Funds Available

\$177,524.06

Respectfully Submitted,
Clifton W. Everett, Jr.
Grand Treasurer

Report of the Grand Secretary

(Docket No. 3)

The Grand Secretary presented the following report, which was received, entered on the record, and referred to the committee on finance.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

I herewith submit my report as Grand Secretary for the calendar year ended December 31, 1999, including expenditures for the year and a suggested budget for the calendar year 2000:

FINANCIAL REPORTS

BUDGETS

January 1, 1999 to December 31, 1999
and Proposed 2000 Budget

		Estimated Income 1999	Actual Income 1999	Variance 1999 (907)	Estimated Income 2000
54916	Master Masons @ \$10.00	549,160	548,254		
53080	Master Masons @ \$10.00			0	530,600
1100	Initiation Fees @ \$1.00	1,100	1,254	154	1,100
	Penalty for Late Returns	1,500	1,821	321	1,500
	Dividends and Interest	15,000	17,816	2,815	17,000
	Miscellaneous Income	1,000	491	(509)	500
	Total Income	567,760	569,835	1,875	550,700

PROPOSED BUDGET

Acct. No.	Account Name	Budget 1999	Expended 1999	Unexpended 1999	Proposed 2000
800-00	Philanthropy				
800-01	Masonic Home for Children	12,500	12,500	0	0
800-02	Masonic and Eastern Star Home	12,500	12,500	0	0
800-01	North Carolina Masonic Charities				25,000
800-03	Charity	15,000	15,200	(200)	15,000
	Charity (initiation fees)	(11,000)	(11,180)	180	(11,000)
800-04	Hospital Visitation (MSA)	6,000	6,000	0	6,000
800-05	Hospital Visitation (NC)	300	100	200	300
800-06	Masonic Youth Organizations	7,000	5,000	2,000	6,000
800-09	Geo. Washington Nat. Mas. Mem. (Exp.)	5,500	5,590	(90)	5,500
800-10	Geo. Washington Nat. Mas. Mem. (Inc)	(5,500)	(5,590)	90	(5,500)
	Total	42,300	40,120	2,180	41,300
810-00	Salaries and Fees				
	Total	160,779	163,648	(2,867)	162,531
820-00	Administration Costs				
820-01	Stationery	1,800	2,272	(472)	2,000
820-02	Printing (Routine)	8,500	10,748	(2,248)	10,500
820-03	Printing (Proceedings)	8,550	8,550	0	10,000
820-04	Office Supplies	2,500	2,974	(474)	2,700
820-05	Postage	10,000	9,718	282	10,000
820-06	Office Equipment	9,000	9,000	0	9,000
820-07	Office Equipment Maintenance	6,500	6,577	(77)	6,500
820-08	Telephone	6,000	7,898	(1,898)	6,000
820-09	Transportation (Grand Secretary)	7,000	7,000	0	7,000
820-10	Official Forms (Annual Returns)	850	1,170	(320)	1,100
820-11	Auditing	3,000	3,350	(350)	3,000
820-12	Dues Cards Income	(9,500)	(10,575)	1,075	(12,000)
	Total	54,200	58,681	(4,481)	55,800
830-00	Building Expenses				
830-01	Utilities	12,500	12,098	402	12,500
830-02	Building Maintenance	11,700	12,526	(826)	12,500
830-03	Equipment Maintenance	5,000	3,909	1,091	4,000
830-04	Hazard Insurance	11,500	11,310	190	11,500
830-05	Building Reserve	15,000	15,000	0	15,000
	Total	55,700	54,843	857	55,500

840-00	Membership Fees and Dues				
840-01	Masonic Service Association	2,850	2,820	30	2,800
840-02	Conference of Grand Masters	690	690	0	690
840-03	GMC Committee on Recognition	100	100	0	100
840-04	Conference of Grand Secretaries	130	130	0	130
840-05	Southeastern Masonic Conference	300	300	0	300
	Total	4,070	4,040	30	4,020
850-00	Travel and Officers Expense				
850-01	Grand Master's Travel	7,500	5,002	2,498	7,500
850-02	Grand Master's Automobile	8,000	8,000	0	8,000
850-03	Grand Master's Office	1,000	626	374	1,250
850-04	Deputy Grand Master's Travel	600	194	406	500
850-05	Senior Grand Warden's Travel	600	324	276	500
850-06	Junior Grand Warden's Travel	600	247	353	500
850-07	Grand Treasurer's Travel	600	492	108	500
850-09	Grand Secretary's Travel	5,800	5,820	(20)	5,800
850-10	Judge Advocate Office & Travel	300	0	300	300
850-11	DDGM Travel	1,800	43	1,758	1,000
850-12	DDGL Travel	1,800	443	1,357	1,000
850-13	Grand Lodge Comm & Emer. Comm Travel	3,500	3,692	(192)	3,500
	Total	32,100	24,883	7,217	30,350
860-00	Boards, Commissions, and Committees				
860-01	Board of General Purposes	2,500	4,094	(1,594)	3,000
860-02	Board of Custodians	8,400	6,423	1,977	7,400
860-03	Special Activities Committee	0	0	0	100
860-04	Masonic Public Relations	600	337	263	600
860-05	Finance Committee	700	835	(135)	700
860-06	Code Commission	100	0	100	500
860-07	Lodge Service Commission	300	0	300	300
860-08	Masonic Education	11,400	6,071	5,329	12,900
	Total	24,000	17,760	6,240	26,500
870-00	Out-of-State Visitation				
870-01	Visiting other Grand Lodges	1,500	575	925	1,500
870-02	Conference of Grand Masters	2,400	3,386	(986)	3,500
870-03	Conference of Grand Secretary	0	0	0	600
870-04	MSA & GWMNMA Conference	600	492	108	600
870-05	Southeastern Masonic Conference	0	437	(437)	2,700
	Total	4,500	4,890	(390)	8,900
880-00	Annual Communication				
880-01	Grand Lodge Officers		3,887		
880-02	Past Grand Masters		3,237		
880-03	DDGM's Travel		3,583		
880-04	DDGL's Travel		2,381		
880-05	Board, Committees, & Commissions		6,079		
880-06	Guests		2,530		
880-07	Auditorium, Banquets, Etc.		18,759		
	Total	42,000	40,456	1,544	44,000
890-00	Miscellaneous Expenses				
890-01	Awards, Aprons, and Emblems	8,000	7,639	361	6,000
890-02	Grand Master's Portrait	700	445	255	700
890-03	Trial Commission Expense	100	0	100	100
890-04	Contingencies	1,500	1,495	5	20,000
890-05	Warehouse Storage	480	480	0	480
890-06	Grand Lodge Library & Archives	4,000	3,687	313	4,000
	Total	14,780	13,746	1,034	31,280
900-00	North Carolina Mason				
900-01	Editor's Salary	14,939	14,939	0	16,538
900-02	Social Security Tax	1,143	1,243	(100)	1,265
900-03	Printing	43,500	44,981	(1,481)	46,000
900-04	Postage	39,600	43,665	(4,065)	43,000
900-05	Retirement and Hospital Insurance		0	0	2,432
900-07	Travel	1,200	568	632	1,200
900-08	Equipment and Supplies	4,300	5,215	(915)	2,000
900-09	Internet Web Page	2,000	1,202	798	1,500
	Total	106,682	111,813	(5,131)	113,935

910-00	Development Program				
	Administrative				
910-01	Director's Salary	59,756	59,756	(0)	61,549
910-02	Social Security - Dir & Cler	6,203	6,203	0	6,938
910-03	Retirement and Hospital Insurance	6,885	6,885	0	1,846
910-04	Travel Expenses	4,500	4,959	(459)	5,500
910-05	Telephone	2,000	2,000	0	2,000
910-06	Postage	2,000	2,000	0	2,000
910-07	Office Supplies	1,000	1,000	0	1,000
910-08	Miscellaneous Program Expense	4,000	7,950	(3,950)	4,500
910-09	Office Equipment	5,000	5,000	0	5,000
910-10	Clerical Assistance	21,333	21,332	1	29,146
	Sub-Total Administrative	112,677	117,088	(4,409)	119,479
	Program Development				
910-11	Spring Orientation	12,000	12,000	0	24,000
	Total	124,677	129,088	(4,409)	143,479
910-12	Program Reimbursement	(124,677)	(129,086)	4,409	(143,479)
	Total	0	0	0	0
800-00	Philanthropy	42,300	40,120	2,180	41,300
810-00	Salaries and Fees	160,779	163,646	(2,867)	152,531
820-00	Administration Costs	54,200	58,681	(4,481)	55,800
830-00	Building Expenses	55,700	54,843	857	55,500
840-00	Membership Fees and Dues	4,070	4,040	30	4,020
850-00	Travel and Officers Expense	32,100	24,883	7,217	30,350
860-00	Boards and Committees Office and Travel	24,000	17,760	6,240	26,500
870-00	Out-of-State Visitation	4,500	4,890	(390)	8,900
880-00	Annual Communication	42,000	40,456	1,544	44,000
890-00	Miscellaneous Expenses	14,780	13,746	1,034	31,280
900-00	North Carolina Mason	106,682	111,813	(5,131)	113,935
910-00	Development Program	0	0	0	0
	Total Expense Series 800-00 - 910-00	541,111	534,879	6,232	564,116

Estimate of Membership

(As of December 31, 1999)

Add:	Gains In 1999	
	Number Initiated	995
	Number Passed	825
	Number Raised	808
	Number Admitted	329
	Number Restored	240
	Total Gains	1,377
Deduct:	Losses In 1999	
	Number Expelled	3
	Number Suspended, U. M. C.	1
	Number Excluded, N. P. D.	872
	Number Demitted	372
	Number Died	1,491
	Total Losses	2,739
	Total Number of Master Masons December 31, 1999	56,595
	Net Loss for 1999	1,362
	Petitions for Degrees Rejected in 1999	70

(Note: The foregoing figures under "Estimate Of Membership" are subject to change as the Annual Returns of the lodges are audited during the year.)

Chartered Lodges

Number of Chartered Lodges as of December 31, 1999 384

There were no lodges under Dispensation as of December 31, 1999

**The Grand Lodge of North Carolina
25-Year Service Awards**

A total of 2,324 Grand Lodge Service Awards (25-Year Emblems and Certificates) were presented during the year 1999.

**The Grand Lodge of North Carolina
Veteran's Awards**

A total of 591 Veteran's Emblems and Certificates (50-Year Awards) were presented during the year 1999.

**The Grand Lodge of North Carolina
Diamond Jubilee Awards**

A total of 47 Diamond Jubilee Emblems and Certificates (60-Year Awards) were presented during the year 1999.

Respectfully submitted,
T. Walton Clapp, III

Resolution of the Committee on Finance

(Docket No. 4)

The following Resolution of the Committee on Finance was received, entered on the record, and adopted:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

Resolved, That the report of the Committee on Finance shall be the first order of business at the morning session of the Grand Lodge held on Saturday, April 29, 2000, and,

Resolved further, That all resolutions, motions, and reports asking for or carrying appropriations and expenditures not included in the proposed budget, shall be placed before the Grand Lodge before 4:00 P.M. on Friday April 28, 2000, and,

Resolved further, That all such matters offered after 4:00 P.M. on Friday April 28, 2000, be carried over to the next business communication of this Grand Lodge when the 2001 budget will be considered.

Respectfully submitted,
Dan Rice, Chairman

Report of the Committee on Permanent Building

(Docket No. 5)

The following report of the Committee on Permanent Building was received, entered on the record, and referred to the committee on finance.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

Your Committee on the Permanent Grand Lodge Property has been busy this year performing a site evaluation on the structure and grounds. A survey was made on the health of the building and its mechanical plant. It was documented that some areas of concern were asbestos in the heating

storage area and an empty underground heating oil tank. We have removed this tank which had some environmental issues and a closure was done to comply with EPA standards. The asbestos has been contained and labeled.

We are evaluating the future life of the heating/air conditioning facility. We may soon address replacement of this entire unit.

On the exterior of the building, we are evaluating the condition of the parking lot and anticipate a complete resurfacing over the next two years.

The interior plumbing of the building is beginning to show some effects from the years of usage and we are evaluating this area also.

We will also, soon need to visit the conditions of our interior structure, offices, basement, and parlor. It has been more than a decade since we refurbished some of these areas.

This committee has sent to Budget and Finance a strong appeal for accrued funding for the building areas mentioned in this report and encourage its adoption.

Respectfully submitted,
E. John Elmore, Chairman

Report of the Auditor

(Docket No. 6)

The following report of David Scobie, Certified Public Accountant, Auditor, was received, entered on the record, and referred to the Committee on Finance.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

We have audited the accompanying statements of financial position of The Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of North Carolina (Grand Lodge) as of December 31, 1999 and 1998, and the related statements of activities and changes in net assets and cash flows for the years then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Grand Lodge as of December 31, 1999 and 1998, and the results of its activities and its cash flows for the years then ended, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

Our audits were made for the purpose of forming an opinion on the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The accompanying supplemental information, the schedule of combining activities and changes in unrestricted net assets—all funds and schedule activities and changes in unrestricted net assets—general fund by sub-activity, are presented for purposes of additional information and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. This supplemental information has not been sub-

jected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and accordingly, we express no opinion on them.

Respectfully submitted,
David F. Scobie,
Grand Lodge Accountant

Report of the Lodge Service Commission

(Docket No. 7)

The following report of the Lodge Service Commission was received, entered on the record, and adopted:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

The Lodge Service Commission respectfully submits the following report for the period beginning December 31, 1998 and ending December 31, 1999.

May 1999—approved the construction of an addition to Black Mountain Lodge No. 663;

September 1999—approved the construction of a new lodge for Temple Lodge No. 676;

September 1999—approved renovation of Hibriten Lodge No. 262.

Respectfully submitted,
Dewey L. Keller, Chairman

Report of the Committee on Fraternal Correspondence

(Docket No. 8)

The following report of the Committee on Fraternal Correspondence was received, and entered on the record:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

We have received formal requests from two grand lodges for fraternal recognition. This Grand Lodge has subscribed to the service of the Commission on Information and Recognition of the Conference of Grand Masters in North America to gather information and investigate whether the grand lodges in question satisfies the conditions of regularity.

Grand Lodge of Russia

The Grand Lodge of Russia was consecrated by the Grande Loge Nationale Francaise on June 24, 1995. Since that time, they have made excellent progress despite the chaotic and economic situation in that country. Presently, the Grand Lodge of Russia is recognized by 55 grand lodges, with 25 of those from the US.

The Commission on Recognition is of the opinion that this grand lodge is regular, meeting all of the standards and encourages recognition by member grand lodges when it is sought by the Grand Lodge of Russia.

Grand Lodge of Cuba

We have been forwarded a request from Charles B. Newcomb Lodge No. 740, requesting that the edict issued by Most Worshipful Brother Edward Burrier, Grand Master in 1963 be repealed and that normal relations be restored to The Grand Lodge of Cuba.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of North Carolina:

Reference: Full Recognition of the Grand Lodge of Cuba

The Masters, Wardens, and Brethren of Charles B. Newcomb Lodge No. 740, located in Raleigh, North Carolina would like to respectfully request that a certain EDICT, issued by the Most Worshipful Grand Master W. Edward Burrier on July 9, 1963, withdrawing recognition of the Grand Lodge of Cuba (in Cuba) be repealed.

In the year 1999, members of a local Protestant church, located near our lodge, made two humanitarian missionary visits to a small community in Cuba. The purpose of which was to help the community build a church and to carry medicines which are in short supply in Cuba. It is our information, the American Orthodontic Association donated one-hundred sets of braces for the Cuban children in that community. A member of our lodge aided in this humanitarian effort. During his visit he noticed a local Masonic Lodge. He spoke with some of the Masons of that community. He discovered the Lodge to be in a near destitute condition. This Brother, on his return, purchased a Masonic Bible written in Spanish and gave the Bible to the lodge on his second visit. This Brother was touched by Cuban Masons and their attachment to Masonry.

We fully realize the political differences between the United States and Cuba, however we are informed that Castro never shut down Freemasonry nor has he persecuted Masons. He has treated churches and service type organizations the same way. We are informed that forty-two (42) United States Grand Lodges recognize the Grand Lodge of Cuba and it is almost universally recognized by other Grand Lodges around the world.

Charles B. Newcomb Lodge would like to purchase new aprons for the Cuban Lodge's one-hundred members. Our Lodge would enjoy Masonic intercourse with this particular Cuban lodge. We believe that our recognizing them will further the principles and promote the teachings of our beloved Craft.

Therefore, we respectfully propose that the Grand Lodge of North Carolina grant full recognition to the Grand Lodge of Cuba (in Cuba). This proposal has been adopted and approved at the regular Stated Communication of Charles B. Newcomb Lodge No. 740 on February 18, 2000.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Officers and Members of
Charles B. Newcomb Lodge, this 19th day of February 2000

Eric Decker, Master

The Commission on Recognition was requested to furnish some information of the Grand Lodge of Cuba and the following report is submitted.

"The Commission never suggested withdrawal of recognition of this Grand Lodge following the Castro revolution. The history is set out in the Commission Report of 1962. Surprisingly for a Communist dictator, Castro never shut down Freemasonry nor apparently persecuted Masons because they were Masons. He also treated the churches and service clubs the same way. Although a number of Grand Lodges in the Conference of Grand Masters withdrew recognition from the Grand Lodge of Cuba, a large number did not. Presently all of the Canadian Grand Lodges and forty-two of the U. S. Grand Lodges recognize the Grand Lodge of Cuba. It is almost universally recognized by other Grand Lodges around the World. The files on Cuba are voluminous. For years I received reports of their Grand Lodge proceedings and direct correspondence from the Grand Secretary about the activities of Freemasonry. The last letter from the Grand Secretary in my files is dated June, 1996, acknowledging receipt of the Commission's 1996 Report. Incidentally, Cuba was a member of the Grand Masters Conference

at the time of the Castro revolution and, I guess, still is, technically. Cuba is the largest Grand Lodge in Latin America with the exception of the Grand Orient of Brazil. It is now active in the Inter-American Confederation of Grand Lodges. The Commission's position on Cuba is set out in its 1978 Report as follows: "Our Masonic brothers in Cuba continue to exhibit extraordinary courage and the Commission reiterates its recommendation that the Grand Lodges of this Conference continue to recognize the Grand Lodge of Cuba."

(Report submitted by Robert L. Dillard, Secretary-Treasurer of the Commission on Information and Recognition).

We therefore recommend, that this Grand Lodge extend fraternal recognition to the Grand Lodge of Russia and the edict of 1963 be repealed and normal relations be restored to the Grand Lodge of Cuba.

Respectfully submitted,
Joseph Knox,
Fraternal Correspondent

(Note: For the disposition of this report see Docket No. 51, page 247 of these Proceedings.)

Report of the Judge Advocate

(Docket No. 9)

The following report of the Judge Advocate was received, entered on the record, and adopted:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

During the Masonic year 1999-2000, the Judge Advocate has considered eleven matters, and the disposition has been as follows:

Determined by Judge Advocate	3
Felonies (3)	
Dismissals (0)	
Fail to entertain (0)	
Determined by Trial Commission	2
Matters pending Trial	0

Respectfully submitted,
Ronnie Stewart,
Judge Advocate

Report of the Committee on By-Laws

(Docket No. 10)

The Committee on By-Laws of Subordinate Lodges presented the following report which was adopted:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

Your Committee on By-Laws of Subordinate Lodges reports that amendments to the by-laws of the following lodges were approved during the year 1999-2000:

Waxhaw Lodge No. 562
Buffalo Lodge No. 172
Shallotte Lodge No. 727
King Solomon Lodge No. 704
Ocean Lodge No. 405
Ocracoke Lodge No. 747
Durham Lodge No. 352

Raeford Lodge No. 306
Waynesville Lodge No. 259
Matthews Lodge No. 461
Memorial Lodge No. 696
Saluda Lodge No. 482
Joppa Lodge No. 530
Butner Lodge No. 697
Currituck Lodge No. 463
Seaboard Lodge No. 378
Gastonia Lodge No. 369
Zebulon Lodge No. 609
Home Lodge No. 613
Jerusalem Lodge No. 95
Richlands Lodge No. 564
Wake Forest Lodge No. 282
Knap of Reeds Lodge No. 158
Scotland Neck Lodge No. 689
White Stone Lodge No. 155
Wilmington Lodge No. 319
Selma Lodge No. 320
Fallston Lodge No. 356
Snow Lodge No. 363
Black Mountain Lodge No. 663
Stony Point Lodge No. 593
Goldsboro Lodge No. 634
James B. Green Lodge No. 735
Garland Lodge No. 664
Dillsboro Lodge No. 459
Swannanoa Lodge No. 561
Allen-Graham Lodge No. 695
Dan River Lodge No. 129
Long Creek Lodge No. 205
Western Star Lodge No. 91
Denver Lodge No. 757
Charles M. Setzer Lodge No. 693
East Gate Lodge No. 692
Round Peak Lodge No. 616
Glenville Lodge No. 551
Hominy Lodge No. 491
Mooresboro Lodge No. 388
Campbell Lodge No. 374
Ashler Lodge No. 373

Respectfully submitted,
T. Walton Clapp, III, Chairman

Report of the Committee on Charity

(Docket No. 11)

The Committee on Charity presented the following report, which was entered on the record, and referred to the Committee on Finance:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

Your Committee on Charity wishes to report the following disbursements for the calendar year 1999:

To RMY	\$ 500.00
To JLR	400.00

To DW	1,000.00
To RH	500.00
To the Masonic Home for Children at Oxford	6,000.00
To the Masonic and Eastern Star Home	6,000.00
Masonic Service Association for Disaster in Oklahoma and Kansas	5,000

Respectfully submitted,
Charles E. Scott, Chairman

Report of the Disaster Committee

(Docket No. 12)

The following report of the Disaster Committee was received and entered on the record:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

Your Committee on Disaster Relief has met numerous times since the floods of Hurricane Floyd devastated eastern North Carolina. The Grand Master appointed this committee which consisted of PGM Clifton W. Everett, Jr., Grand Treasurer; William G. Mathis, Junior Grand Warden; Leonard Y. Safrit, Jr., Grand Marshal; Gene T. Jernigan, Grand Steward; and T. Walton Clapp, III, Grand Secretary. This committee considered each case individually and on the basis of its merit. It made contributions ranging from \$250.00 to \$1,000.00. It was difficult to comprehend the magnitude of destruction, which left so many homeless and with no means of support. Through the support of Lodges in North Carolina and Grand Lodges in other States through the Masonic Service Association, we have received a total of \$210,909. We have dispersed a total of \$189,055 to date. The committee is still receiving requests for assistance and is responding to those needs.

Checks were distributed through local lodges. A press release was included with checks so that local news media could let our communities know that Freemasonry in North Carolina cares for its neighbors. The thank you notes we received from many of those we helped has been truly moving. My Brothers, you have done good work.

Respectfully submitted,
Clifton W. Everett, Jr., PGM

Report of the Administrator Masonic and Eastern Star Home of North Carolina, Inc.

(Docket No. 13)

The following report of John A. Rose, Administrator of the Masonic and Eastern Star Home, Inc. was received, entered on the record, and referred to the Board of Directors:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

I am happy and encouraged to write this, my sixth report as Administrator of the Masonic and Eastern Star Home. Just last year I reported that 1999 would bring completion of a new and sorely-needed Care and Wellness Center and a program offering more economical and higher-quality Assisting Living. MESH, as the Home is affectionately known, has made good progress in several areas.

I think one of the improvements made in fiscal year 1999 is in communication with our members. MESH has distributed media materials to

include a pamphlet for applicants, which describes the Home and the services available. The Masonic District Deputy Grand Masters and Grand Lecturers were invited to the Masonic and Eastern Star Home for lunch during a leadership training program. I was surprised to learn that many of these leaders were visiting MESH for the first time. These busy people are serving as conduit of accurate information about this Home and erasing misinformation.

Brother Jim Medlin, Development Director for the North Carolina Masonic Foundation, and I served as the steering committee for the campaign to raise money for the new Care and Wellness Center. The Masons of North Carolina can be proud of their Home. Five years ago I reported to the Grand Lodge that we could grow our way out of a serious problem.

In sum, the problem was an annual operating budget deficit, a need for a new Care and Wellness Center, and too little attention by donors. Here is a snapshot of how MESH has fared financially in those five intervening years.

In 1995 the MESH endowment was valued at approximately \$10 million dollars. We had an annual operating deficit of more than \$644,000. We had an inefficient and old care center. Contributions were not sufficient to keep up with the rising cost of new construction.

At this writing, despite the fact that we borrowed some \$3 million dollars from our endowment for construction, we have an endowment of nearly \$14 million. Contributions amounted to nearly \$3 million and today we have a wonderful new \$6 million Care and Wellness Center that is debt free. If FY 2000 goes as planned, the MESH annual deficit would be reduced by more than 89%.

MESH continues to look for opportunities to find efficiencies, additional revenue sources, and scales of economy. At this time, MESH is looking at several new exciting programs. One possible new program called Outreach Services and Non-resident Assistance, may make it possible to assist eligible persons sponsored by Masonic Lodges far from the vicinity of the Masonic and Eastern Star Home. Another is a bold idea—not necessarily new—which will help our Masonic-related charities in North Carolina to reduce duplication and redundant activities that are expensive and wasteful.

This year the Board of Directors approved a new admission policy whereby applicants may retain control of their financial resources and enter the retirement home without having to sign over a portion of their assets. In the last several decades, the term "need" has expanded beyond just financial issues. This new policy will allow residents to move in sooner, at a younger age, at a time when they have more resources, able to enjoy their lives at MESH to a greater extent, and are in better health. MESH will retain the former admission system and, of course, continue to serve those who are in financial distress pursuant to our obligation.

Henry David Thoreau said, *"If one advances confidently in the direction of his dreams, he will meet with a success unexpected in common hours."* MESH employees advance a common theme that; *"We work in the residents' Home; residents do not live in our institution."* Our residents are regarded as Masonry's finest customers.

Each resident served in your Masonic and Eastern Star Home represents more than a name. Each name is tangible evidence that Masons accept their obligation. Charity is love and your continued love is fraternally appreciated.

Resident Statistics—Population

Population	Men	Women	Total
Beginning Census on 1-1-99	34	154	188
Admissions	3	11	14
Sub Total	37	165	202
Withdrawals	0	0	0
Deaths	6	16	22
Ending Census	31	149	180
Comparison to Previous Year	-3	-5	-8

Waiting List

	Men	Women	Total
Waiting list 1-1-99	1	2	3
Applicants Approved	6	15	21
Sub Total	7	17	24
Admissions	3	11	14
Removed from list (choice/death)	1	3	4
Waiting List (12-31-99)	1	1	2
Comparison to Previous Year	1	-1	-1

Acknowledgments

This begins my fifth year as your administrator. The residents of MESH have become wonderful friends. The employees are as loving and competent as can be found anywhere. This does not happen by accident. It starts with you—the owners of this Home. What makes an institution a “Home?” The answer is “Love.” *The Bible* reminds us to plead the widow’s cause. Our Masonic Homes in North Carolina set an example of Homes and not institutions.

The MESH Board of Directors was faced with an opportunity to bring about a cooperative spirit that rivals that of 1908 when the Masons and Eastern Star members of North Carolina decided to come together and give birth to this charity.

Several policy changes and matters of the future are detailed in the report of the Board of Directors. Please see that report for particulars relative to admission policies, corporate opportunities, and service programs.

There can be no doubt that not only doing the thing right motivates our Grand Master, he wants to do the right thing. Under the leadership of the Grand Master Charles Ingram we have been challenged to be all that we can be; challenged to grow professionally and educationally. He has furthered the great work of Past Grand Master Thomas W. Gregory, and those who preceded him and who positioned our Home to serve in this next century.

The Grand Lodge Office personnel under the direction of our Grand Secretary, Walt Clapp, have been very helpful in the past year. The Masons of North Carolina are fortunate to have such friendly and capable professionals at our side. They do much to help MESH remain organized.

MESH regrets the decision of Mrs. Mary Eleanor (M.E.) Ramsbotham to retire. She held the position of MESH Administrative Assistant for more than 18 years. Her dedication to and love to both the residents and for her work will be missed. We do thank Mrs. Kay Ellison for accepting a promotion and the position of Administrative Assistant. She brings her own special skills and talents to MESH.

The residents of MESH sent their sincere and fraternal appreciation to the Masons of North Carolina. Freemasons may no longer erect temporal

buildings; we do, however, erect spiritual temples to the glory of God. Masons and their families who care for this Home have the ability to look past wrinkles and the glassy eye of age. You are assured that the residents in our care have value, worth, and dignity.

You are the rare people who understand that we are all children of God, just some older than others.

Fraternally and respectfully submitted,
John A. Rose
Administrator

Report of the Board of Directors of the Masonic and Eastern Star Home of North Carolina, Inc.

(Docket No. 14)

The following report of the Board of Directors of the Masonic and Eastern Star Home was received and entered on the record:

To The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

During the Masonic year, the Board of Directors convened their regular meetings on a different schedule than the normal quarterly meetings. MESH met in May, July, September, and November 1999, and January 2000. A special called meeting was held on February 25-27, 2000 with the Board of Directors of the Masonic Home for Children to study opportunities to visit properties being used for a possible joint venture program that would be known as the Jones Masonic Campus, Inc.

The Board of Directors is comprised of 20 qualified members of whom 12 are Masons and 8 are members of the Eastern Star. The Grand Master serves as Chairman. The Deputy Grand Master and Senior Grand Warden are members by virtue of their position. The other Masonic members are appointed by the Grand Master and elected by the voting members of Grand Lodge at the annual communication. The many important responsibilities of the Board are directed through committees and, when necessary, ad hoc committees. Standing committees are instrumental in maintaining efficient and effective operations of your Masonic and Eastern Star Home. These committees include Admissions, Personnel, Finance, Buildings and Grounds Real Estate, Long Range Planning, and the Investment Committee. Two ad-hoc committees: Construction and Charter Study continue their important work. The Construction Committee directs and oversees the current expansion project. The Charter Study Committee, with input from the Long-Range Planning Committee, will complete a revision of our By-laws and Corporate Charter. Board counsel Clark Brewer is serving as special advisor for this purpose.

The Board of Directors receive regular reports from the Administrator which relate to the daily operations of the Masonic and Eastern Star Home.

We are pleased with the Home's activities during 1999. Economies and efficiencies have been found and resulted in only a small increase to the operating budget for 2000. Savings have been plowed back into the Home's resident care program resulting in an improvement in the quality of care and life.

Our attention continues to be on balancing the needs and wants of the residents and those qualified for admission. All this must be in the context of the income earned by your contributions to the Endowment and Foundation, through estate giving, through the participation of those now residing

in the Home, and other revenues to which the Home and our residents are entitled.

One important activity highlighted this Masonic year. In November we had the wonderful opportunity of dedicating the cornerstone of the new Care and Wellness Center. This state-of-the-art center is something in which we can all be proud. It proved a point as well. Faith is the evidence of a sight unseen. Real progress in philanthropy, investment earnings, and interest in the new Center did not take place until the ground was broken and the work commenced. Our fraternal appreciation is extended to all those who had the vision and the faith to see this important need become a reality.

There is one policy improvement that we would be remiss in not sharing. For many years it was necessary to assign or commit the assignment of a portion of one's assets and income in order to have "life care" at MESH. For the most part this has been more than charitable. On the average, a resident contributes about 50% of the cost of life care and the remainder is borne philanthropically by our members and investment income. In fact, historically, we have experienced a deficit that has been funded by growth on our investments.

Need has moved beyond finances alone. Need includes other things like proximity of family, availability of services, available of community and other resources, loneliness, and health care. The admission policy made potential eligible applicants reluctant to apply to MESH. The new policy allows eligible persons to pay for the services they need without assigning control of their assets and income. In sum, MESH is raising the bar of services by amortizing the cost of care.

So much interest in this new policy has resulted in the MESH Board of Directors approving the building of as many as 50 new two-bedroom and two-bath cottages on the Greensboro campus and considering the idea of satellite programs in North Carolina. The greater participation by residents in the cost of care may allow us opportunities to fund the replacement of our older residential rooms with more satisfactory "state-of-the-space" accommodations.

A new corporation to be known as "The Jones Masonic Campus" is being studied. Sixty acres of beautiful property in Carteret County have been offered the Masonic Charities in North Carolina for the purpose of a Masonic retreat center, children's camp, and retirement community.

The Directors are aware that fewer residents come from the areas that are remote to the Home. This is probably due to the difficulty in leaving that area of North Carolina considered "home." As well, and with a direct correlation, there is less philanthropic activity from those areas. To this end, the Board has directed the Administrator/CEO to review, research, and recommend a non-resident assistance and outreach services program to better serve those from outlying areas where it may be in the better interests to remain in a community other than MESH. The goal of this program would be to assist the sponsoring Lodge in its chronic relief burden that is beyond its ability to administer alone.

There is good news about MESH finances

At this writing, the annual audit is being conducted. The following unaudited operating income comparisons will depict the financial picture of MESH. I sum, operating revenues at first blush are 7.6% less than in fiscal year 1998. This is due to a one-time special gift from a single donor in 1998. Annual expenses were held to a 5.85% increase over the prior fiscal year. The deficit reduction plan was to eliminate the deficit within a decade. We are ahead of schedule with a 70% reduction for FY 1999 over fiscal year 1996. Gifts for the new Care and Wellness Center are up 142% over the prior

year. Funds from legacies, wills, and estates are up over 150%. These funds are deposited into the MESH Endowment and become perpetual gifts.

Operating Revenue		
	1998	1999
From Residents		
Income from Residents	\$1,429,781	\$1,445,031
Asset Division	519,890	329,658
Real Estate	488,137	406,309
Accommodation Fees	75,000	65,000
Maintenance Fees	114,342	144,586
RTA Transfer	203,872	206,842
Mortgage Interest	24,511	18,516
Operating Expense Recoveries	63,356	62,344
Subtotal Resident Participation	\$2,918,889	\$2,678,286
Fraternal Support	1998	1999
Income from Charitable Trust	0	91,855
Blue Lodges, Appendant Bodies	760,469	*627,048
N. C. Masonic Foundation	318,584	280,684
Grand Lodge	18,500	24,500
Grand Chapter	370,907	402,484
Subtotal Fraternal Support	\$1,468,460	\$1,428,571
Investment Income	1998	1999
Endowment Interest/Dividends	563,375	408,655
MESH Operating Interest/Dividends	90,957	144,751
Subtotal Investment Income	\$654,332	\$553,406
Total Operating Revenue	\$5,041,681	\$4,750,118 (-5.78%)
* Includes \$291,211 reimbursement for Care Center expenses		
Legacies	1998	1999
.....	\$243,547	\$631,244 (159%)
Care and Wellness Center Support	1998	1999
Lodge, Memorial, Major Gifts		159,244
Other Gifts		20,491
Solomon's Book of Builders		196,607
Total CWC Support FY 1999	\$155,606	\$376,342 (142%)
Total Revenue From Sources	1998	1999
.....	\$5,440,834	\$5,466,493 (+.47%)
Total Operating Expenses	1998	1999
Administrative	771,250	783,957
Dietary	645,145	766,095
Maintenance	486,229	519,846
Care Center Health Care	1,680,326	1,654,441
Residential Health Care	407,857	490,745
Environmental Services	352,007	344,616
Activities	158,116	168,088
Independent Apartments (Cottages)	38,845	57,408
Social Services	31,292	40,428
Board Of Directors	12,011	25,586
Total Expenses	\$4,583,078	\$4,851,211 (+ 5.85%)
Annual Deficit Comparison	1995	1999
Total Operating Revenue	\$(644,409)	\$(192,858) (-70.07%)
Key Ratios	1998	1999
Cost Per Resident Year	\$ 24,967	\$ 26,397
Cost Per Resident Month	2,081	2,200
Cost Per Resident Day	68.40	72.32
Average Population Served	183.56	183.78
Status of the Original Care Center Building Fund		
Accumulated Funds (Start)	\$ 1,633,284	
Contributions and Interest	224,996	
Expenses	1,533,936	
Misc. Reimbursements	1,602	
Accumulated Funds (December 31, 1998)	\$ 325,946	

Appreciation

Each resident served in your Masonic and Eastern Star Home represents more than a name. Each contribution and dollar spent represents more than money. Your Home is tangible evidence of the extent to which Masons and Eastern Star members accept their obligation. Charity is love and your continued love is needed.

On behalf of your Board of Directors, "Thank You" for your continued attention to this, one of the purest forms of charity that can be found. The *Bible* reminds us to plead the widow's cause and to visit the fatherless in their affliction. What better example is there than our Masonic Charities.

Respectfully submitted,
The Board of Directors
Masonic and Eastern Star Home of
North Carolina, Inc.

Report of the Committee on The Masonic and Eastern Star Home

(Docket No. 15)

The following report of the Committee on the Masonic and Eastern Star Home was received, entered on the record, and referred to the Board of Directors of the Masonic and Eastern Star Home:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

In accordance with Regulation 38-17 of *The Code* of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina, this Committee made its annual visit, inspection, and evaluation of the Masonic and Eastern Star Home herein (MESH) on January 21, 2000. Present were: Charles Lewis, Junior Grand Deacon, Chairman; E. John Elmore, Richard Mapes, and James Sullivan. Accompanying the Committee members were two invited members of the Order of the Eastern Star Chapter, including one Past Worthy Grand Matron.

Those who arrived on the evening prior to the official visit enjoyed the fellowship of John Rose, CEO of MESH, and the hospitality of an evening meal at O'Charley's Restaurant in Greensboro.

On Friday morning the Committee gathered for a most relaxing and well-prepared breakfast in the Residents Special Dining Room in the new Care Center. It was great to experience this room, as it is available to the residents of MESH for special events such as family celebrations and birthdays!

The Committee examined several key documents including the December 31, 1998 Report to the MESH Board of Directors as prepared by Crisp, Hughes, and Evans; promotional items such as mailer leaflets and *A Proud Heritage, A Promising Future* booklet; the descriptive material on the Wellness Center; the Strategic Plan (draft); accounting reports, admission criteria statements (MESH responds quickly to the small number on the waiting list); and the Independent Living Master Plan and participation details. Brother Rose and his staff (several of whom we met personally) were most helpful, open, and informative. It should be noted that one of the Committee members, Brother James Sullivan, was able to tour the entire plant, including the Care Center, with appropriate maintenance supervisory personnel, and he was able to make several recommendations that are based on his years of international corporate facility management experience. Brother Rose was most receptive to those suggestions.

The Committee's tour of MESH included everything from the cemetery to the library. It is exciting to embrace the many possibilities that Grand

Lodge has at MESH. Vision is operative at the Home. Even the casual visitor must be impressed by the warm, friendly, and reassuring dispositions of administration, staff, and residents.

MESH is approaching the "state of the art" in its mode of operation and in its offerings. Every North Carolina Mason owes it to humanity at large and to the Masonic family in particular to make a pilgrimage to MESH. The eye clinic, the dentistry clinic, the recreation activity program, the food service, the computer access for residents—it's all there in a caring, loving, and supportive environment. It was particularly rewarding to be able to interact with our family members—the guests who live at MESH. Many feelings of thankfulness were expressed by them. They know how great it is because they live it everyday.

MESH has a wonderful new therapy pool. And in the promotion of fitness and a healthy living, wellness-based life-style, opportunity is being made for employees to share in its use. As residents become more comfortable with this program asset, physical exercise will increase.

This report will not repeat details contained in the 1999 *Proceedings*. This report rather commends Grand Lodge for the exemplary offerings at MESH. It wholeheartedly and strongly recommends:

1. that the Board of Directors be commended for its approval of the non-assigned asset admission system and that the plan be marketed and implemented as soon as possible;
2. that the implementation of the Independent Living Project be carried through quickly and effectively to completion;
3. that the Home market itself to the Fraternity better. There is much misinformation and that misinformation fills a void. Consideration should be given to employing a Marketing Director charged with the responsibility to market the new Independent Living program as well as other programs of MESH. This Director would transition to include Development responsibilities after the Home's education program is properly communicated;
4. that in the year 2000 each symbolic Lodge in North Carolina be encouraged to undertake a Lodge-specific fund raising project consistent with the "needs" list shared with the Committee; this list could be published in *The North Carolina Mason*;
5. that recognition be made of the fact that standards have changed since the resident buildings were built and it is urgent that the basement living accommodations in that facility be upgraded to industry standards;
6. that a physical modification be made to the existing staff dining room to permit a flexible sandwich bar and activity station better suited to the needs of the Home's residents and activity staff;
7. that the enclosed ground area outside the staff dining room and configured by a current walkway be redesigned for an outdoor patio area;
8. that the Board of Directors examine and reflect on the eight recommendations made by the Grand Lodge Committee in 1999 and determine the extent to which each may be viable for continuation.

In closing, the Committee members thank Grand Lodge for the opportunity to make the annual visit. Each and every North Carolina Mason can be extremely proud of MESH. Each and every North Carolina Mason can be thankful that this choice exists for those who need it. Each and every North Carolina Mason is being represented by the employees of MESH on a daily basis. Each and every North Carolina Mason lives within the hearts of those

who are surrounded with the dignity, peace, and grace of The North Carolina Masonic and Eastern Star Home.

Respectfully submitted,
Charles A. Lewis, Jr., Chairman

Report of the Administrator The Masonic Home for Children at Oxford

(Docket No. 16)

The following report of David R. Grissom, Administrator of The Masonic Home for Children at Oxford was received, entered on the record, and referred to the Board of Directors: To The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

The year 1999 was a year full of challenges and fortunately we had a Board of Directors who maintained a strong focus and wanted to see the best in quality care provided to every child. The history of our Masonic Home for Children spans a time of 128 years and over this period, our Fraternity has made sure this wonderful Home rises above all circumstances and situations to face the future with honor and dignity. As the oldest Masonic Home for children in the country and the first childcare home in the state of North Carolina, our Masons, over the years, can be proud that they have assisted over 8,000 children.

In many cases, as a result of their own decisions, a large number of the children who grew up in our Home and later in their adult lives, become Masons or Eastern Star members. Fortunately, some of the alumni who are members of our Fraternity, have served on our Board of Directors.

Reviewing the overall operation of the campus for 1999, several projects and programs have been attained. Throughout the year, our goal has focused on purchasing and installing new computers for all the eleven cottages. Over sixty computers were purchased. Trenches were dug to prepare for the fiber optic lines and switches to be installed. Due to the unstable weather, at the writing of this report, this project has not been completed but we anticipate all computers to be in operation by the middle of February, 2000. To enhance the success of the computer project and the purchase of computer programs, a 2000 calendar project was distributed to all of our Masons throughout North Carolina. Due to the overwhelming support and contributions to this needy project, our children can maintain the educational advantages as other children in the school system. Thank you brethren for caring and sharing and we hope you enjoy the beautiful calendar, "Old Dreams and New Visions."

In addition to the educational opportunities, our children continue to enjoy the Watson Resource Center in the basement of The York Rite Memorial Chapel. With a library, computer lab, and qualified tutors to assist our children with their grads during the study hall hours, the overall grade point average has increased to an 82.7 GPA (Grade Point Average) campus wide. We extend our appreciation to Mrs. Angie Salisbury, Education Director, Mrs. Pam Haskins, and Mr. Mike Currin, Assistants, for their fine work and for maintaining wonderful contact and exposure in all five of the Granville County Public Schools where our children attend. As a matter of information, a great deal of work, time, and expense has been given to prepare our children for the new dress code which will go into effect in January 2000 for grades K-8. This was a mandate by the Granville County School System and fortunately our children will be prepared when school begins after the Christmas holidays on January 3, 2000.

The Independent Living College Program continues to assist our students with their post-secondary education. Students in this program are

required to attend Vance-Granville Community College, work a part-time job and maintain a C or better average. In addition to the Independent Living Program, we also support our students at UNC-Charlotte, Campbell University, and Meredith College.

Admissions at The Masonic Home for Children will fluctuate and at the writing of this report, we have 120 children. It is important that our brethren know we still have room available for more children on our campus and depend on our Masonic Lodges to refer children to our Home. If you know of a child or children in your community who could benefit from our programs and many opportunities, please notify the Home by calling (919) 693-5111 and speak to Brother Donald Sizemore, Director of Admissions.

To assist in promoting our census and giving more exposure to our Masonic Home for Children, during 1999, we began the Masonic Student Assistance Program or MSAP. This program is the first of its kind in our state and it focuses on training educators from various school systems around our state on how to recognize and assist "at-risk students." Three workshops have been held on our campus and the results and evaluations from each of these three day workshops have been very successful. Many thanks to our Masons and Masonic lodges who encouraged the school systems in their communities to send a team to Oxford. We also appreciate those lodges who gave financial support to see that the teachers could attend. If you need more information or would like to have someone from our Home visit your community or speak in your lodge about the MSAP Program, please contact Mrs. Linda Atkinson, Coordinator of MSAP, at (919) 693-5111 and she will be glad to assist you.

In addition to increasing awareness of our Masonic Home for Children, we extend our appreciation to Brother Jim Reddish who has contacted various billboard companies and successfully had our Masonic Home for Children logo and MSAP information displayed. These billboards have been seen in various areas of the western part of our state and in several areas in the Piedmont. More work is being done to obtain billboard space east of I-95. We have a lot of pride and wonderful programs for children to offer and it is obvious we need to expose our Masonic work. The special video, "A Place to Call Home" is still being utilized as a promotional program to enhance continued awareness of our Masonic Home for Children and if any of our Masonic Lodges would like to obtain one of these videos, please contact Brother Chris Richardson, Assistant Director of Public Relations and Development, at our Home at (919) 693-5111.

For the past five years, the campus student newspaper, *Campus Tracks*, has been a valuable way of communicating student activities and programs from our children. Fortunately, many of our Masons, alumni, and friends have subscribed to *Campus Tracks* and we appreciate your interest and contributions. As you are aware, any subscription money is utilized to send our student staff for *Campus Tracks* to the UNC School of Journalism every summer. Normally, 3 to 5 students attend this special event and they always return with many more skills and training. A special word of thanks is extended to Mike and Jeannie Soehnlein for serving as adult advisors for this successful student newspaper. Under their guidance, this paper has won a number of awards which enhances the pride of the students, advisors and our entire campus. Of course, we could not publish our *Campus Tracks* without the support of our Printing Department. Many thanks to our printing staff for a "job well done." If anyone would like to subscribe to the *Campus Tracks* newspaper, please contact our Printing Department at (919) 603-3910 or the main switchboard for the Masonic Home for Children at (919) 693-5111.

As our Board of Directors Report indicates, we had another successful St. John's Day on June 25, 1999. Over 10,000 Masons, alumni, and friends

attended this largest Masonic celebration in our state and we are delighted so many of you came to share with us. We are especially grateful to our three Shrine Temples, Amran, Oasis, and Sudan, as they always provide an outstanding parade and wonderful food after the parade. Our Nobles look forward to this event every year and in most cases, these Shriners give of their time, personal expenses and a great deal of work to see the children smile. Thanks Nobles for a "job well done."

A special thanks to Brother Lloyd Young, Chairman, and his St. John's Day Committee for their continued dedication as they strive throughout the year to see that every detail is covered and that another St. John's Day is unique and meaningful for children and adults of all ages. As a reminder, St. John's Day for the year 2000 will be held on June 24. Come prepared to enjoy a day of fun and excitement and all you need to do is bring a lounge chair and a big smile because admission is free.

In conclusion, the Masonic Home for Children expresses deep appreciation to our Board of Directors, Masons, alumni, corporations, and friends from across our state for your continued support, love and prayers. You are a vital of our big family and we could not provide the kind of quality care to every child without your assistance. Knowing your kindness is important, please know your opinions, comments and suggestions are always appreciated. It would be wonderful to know we have all the answers to the many questions that arise from time to time but reality reminds us that we do not. Sometimes a comment or opinion gives us new insight and this is helpful. For example, it was brought to the attention of our Board of Directors that a trust fund in the amount of \$5,000.00 needed to be investigated and the beneficiaries needed to be notified as to why the fund was losing money. This matter was brought to the attention of our Board of Directors, and with the Grand Master's approval, referred to Brother Jim Medlin, Director of Development for further study. At the writing of this report, Brother Jim Medlin is still investigating and the Board looks forward to the results of his study.

We are grateful to our Grand Master, Dr. Charles M. Ingram for his leadership and guidance during his year as our Chairman of the Board. We also express appreciation to three of our faithful Board Members who will rotate off the Board this year. To Brothers E. Sherrill Styron, Frederick E. Oglesby, and Wayne Howard Propst, we thank you for your input and we look forward to your support in the future.

As a reminder, our Masons are always invited to your Masonic Home for Children at any time. Please come to see us and enjoy what your donations, gifts, and pride do for all of our deserving children. Take care brethren and may God bless you now and always.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. David R. Grissom
Administrator

Report of the Board of Directors of The Masonic Home for Children at Oxford

(Docket No. 17)

The following report of the Board of Directors of The Masonic Home for Children at Oxford was received, and entered on the record:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

The Board of Directors for the Masonic Home for Children at Oxford met on six different occasions since the Annual Communication in April 1999. Two combined board meetings were held at the Masonic and Eastern Star

Home in Greensboro while two combined board meetings were held at The Masonic Home for Children at Oxford. Two individual board meetings were held at each of the respective campuses. As both Boards from our two charities are committed to their duties and responsibilities, it was important that the Boards visit and tour both Homes and experience some of the activities, projects and programs. Many thanks to our Board for the Masonic Home for Children as your input and support were vital to the ongoing programs and events which helps in maintaining quality care for all the children living on our campus.

1999 was a special time for our Education program at The Masonic Home for Children. In a previous report, our Board wanted to see that computers, internet and e-mail were available to all the children in all eleven cottages on campus. During 1999, the Board of Directors approved the purchasing of sixty state-of-the-art computers. With the assistance of our Maintenance Department, the fiber optic lines have been run throughout the campus and at the writing of this report, connections and switches for the computers are about to be installed.

As our brethren are aware, a special calendar project was conducted among all our Masons in November and December 1999. The proceeds from this program have assisted in underwriting our computer program and as a Board of Directors, we appreciate all the Masons who supported this vital and needed educational endeavor. It is encouraging to know our children will have the same opportunities available to them as other children in our school system. At the writing of this annual report, the overall GPA (Grade Point Average) of the campus is 82.75. This is a small increase over the 1998 GPA total which was 82.4. Fortunately, we continue to utilize the mandatory study hall schedules with assistance from our tutors. The Watson Resource Center in the York Rite Memorial Chapel is maintained by a librarian each afternoon so the children can get extra assistance, work on school research projects, or enjoy the time in the library.

The college Independent Living Program on our campus continues to assist students in their post secondary goals. While living in the college dormitory, the students must attend the local Vance-Granville Community College, carry a full schedule of courses and maintain part-time employment. Fortunately, our Masonic Home for Children pays for all educational expenses as long as the students maintain passing grades and a positive attitude. In addition to students attending Vance-Granville Community College, we also have students at Campbell University and UNC-Charlotte.

The census on the campus of the Masonic Home for Children has been a central focus for our Board of Directors. At the conclusion of 1999, we had a total of 120 children. Throughout the year, we assisted over 163 children but 43 were discharged mainly due to a parent or guardian taking their children as in most cases the home environment had improved. Of course, there were some of the students who had to be discharged due to discipline problems at school or on the campus. Every effort was made through counseling and working with the students with discipline problems, and after all possibilities were exhausted, the final step was discharge. Follow-up is done on the discharged students to see that they are not forgotten or totally abandoned. In some cases, after a student has been away from our Home for a period of time, we have re-admitted students and found they did better after their return. Sometimes, a student realizes what advantages he/she had while living on our campus and our staff is able to work with them. With the assistance of our video program entitled, *"A Place Called Home,"* we have been able to share our story with Masonic Lodges, community leaders and various civic groups to let the public know we have room available for new children. Of course, as each child admitted to our Home must be approved by the local Masonic Lodge, we must encourage and stress

to all of our Masons that their involvement in sending students to our Masonic Home for Children is vital.

In addition, the new MSAP Project, (Masonic Student Assistance Program) has been a vital program for our Home. Educators are invited to our campus from all across North Carolina to participate in a three-day workshop. Teachers are taught how to recognize and work with at-risk students in their particular school. Throughout 1999, four MSAP workshops were held and the response from the educators has been outstanding. We anticipate having four to six workshops on our campus during 2000. A special thanks to our Masonic Lodges who assisted the educators from their particular community with financial support and encouragement as the MSAP program is the first of its kind in our state supported totally by our Masonic Fraternity.

Our brethren will be delighted to know that 1999 was another success story for our St. John's Day celebration. It was estimated that approximately 10,000 Masons, their families, alumni and friends attended this June celebration. We are deeply grateful to all of those who attended as this event is the largest Masonic celebration in our state every year. We especially extend our appreciation to our three Shrine Temples, Amran, Oasis, and Sudan, as they always provide an excellent parade and make sure those in attendance have a great deal of fun, food and an abundance of fellowship. A special thanks to Brother Lloyd Young, chairman of this wonderful event for many years, and we appreciate his continued support and dedicated service. As a reminder, St. John's Day 2000 will be held on June 24. We anticipate another big crowd so start preparing and come to The Masonic Home for Children and enjoy a day you will never forget.

Throughout 1999, our Board of Directors has carefully studied the finances and budget and we are delighted to report that all the departments have worked diligently to keep their budgets in line. The mission and purpose of our Masonic Home for Children is to see that all the children receive quality care and that we have a staff of employees to meet the needs of our children. The brethren will find a Comparative Statement of Income and a Comparative Statement of Expenses for 1999 at the conclusion of this Board of Directors report. As a Board, we extend our appreciation to Brother David Ford, Business Manager, for his fine work and keeping our Board informed on all budget matters. We also extend our gratitude to Mrs. Mary Helen Parrott, Financial Secretary, and Mrs. Brenda Wilkins, Executive Secretary, as they keep accurate records on all expenses and respond as quickly as possible with letters of appreciation for gifts, donations and monies given to our Home. We also appreciate the extra time and work Brother Fred Oglesby, Chairman of Finance, and his committee have given to see that our records are always in order and that they are ready to be audited at any time. It is important that our brethren throughout the state know their gifts and donations are utilized to help children.

It is also important for our brethren to know that we are always trying to increase The Masonic Home for Children Endowment Fund. Gifts from legacies, wills and bequests are placed in our Endowment Fund, unless the funds are designated, and the interest from the principal in our Endowment Fund is used for daily operating expenses. To those who have remembered our Home, we say a big "thank you." Our brethren will be interested to know that the Masonic Home for Children Alumni Association also has an Endowment Fund and all the interest from their principal is given to the Home's Endowment Fund. It is encouraging to know that the children, now adults, who were assisted by our Home over the years, want to give something back to our Home as a way of expressing their appreciation.

For those of you who are reading this report want to remember our Masonic Home for Children in your will, please contact Brother Chris

Richardson, Public Relations and Development Officer at our Masonic Home, and he will gladly assist you. The number for Brother Chris Richardson is (919) 693-5111. You may also contact Brother Jim Medlin, Director of Development for the Grand Lodge, and he will assist you with any questions you may have. The number for Brother Jim Medlin at The Grand Lodge is (919) 787-2021.

As we conclude our Annual Report for 1999 from our Board of Directors, we wanted to express our gratitude to Grand Master Dr. Charles M. Ingram for his leadership and guidance during his year as Grand Master. We also express our appreciation to three of our Board members who will complete their terms on our Board. To Brothers E. Sherrill Styron, Frederick E Oglesby, and Wayne Howard Propst, we are grateful for all you have done to assist us. We look forward to your continued support in the future.

Fortunately, over the years, our Masonic Home for Children has been blessed to have men who are dedicated to the mission of our Home and are willing to give their time and support to attend meetings to see that the children are always a priority. May God bless and guide all of our Boards, past, present and future as we have a proud heritage to protect and many goals and dreams to attain.

Respectfully submitted,
Board of Directors

Comparative Statement of Income 1999

	1998	1999
Legacies	\$3,666,794.08	2,699,368.96
Social Security Payments		
Dependent Children	19,799.98	11,002.57
Printing	364,241.32	498,109.96
Farm	4,422.00	5,049.00
Miscellaneous, Materials		
Equipment Sold	3,300.00	2,627.00
Grand Lodge Appropriation		
and Foundation	124,564.39	166,286.76
Donations (Blue Lodge) And Other		
Masonic Bodies	641,705.22	607,340.55
Donations - General Public	126,461.83	135,482.49
Income From Investments	1,385,193.04	1,447,171.00
Critcher Farm Income, Food Income,		
Cash Discounts	37,410.63	33,712.27
TOTAL	\$6,373,892.49	\$5,605,150.56

Comparative Statement of Expenses 1999

	1998	1999
Administrative	\$ 886,043.45	\$ 593,631.44
Direct Child Care	407,811.19	482,680.89
Food Service	263,772.77	306,233.84
Health Care	133,450.07	149,963.36
Religion	48,366.78	59,709.46
Education	82,718.72	90,529.11
Recreation	69,136.06	86,388.75
Plant & Operation	733,870.25	948,453.36
Printing Department	386,812.95	497,516.94
Development	- 0 -	67,730.15
TOTAL	\$3,011,982.24	\$3,282,837.30

Report of the North Carolina Masonic Foundation, Inc.

(Docket No. 18)

The following report of the North Carolina Masonic Foundation, Inc. was received, entered on the record, and referred to the Board of General Purposes:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

Cash and Equivalents, December 31, 1998	\$ 6,988,219.00	
Securities, book value at December 31, 1998	7,027,413.00	
Unrealized gain on securities, December 31, 1998	<u>586,010.51</u>	
Fund Value December 31, 1998 (Market Value)		\$ 14,601,641.51
Add:		
Contributions received to date	100,196.34	
Capital Gains/(Loss) on Investments	<u>1,109,276.62</u>	
Dividend and Interest Income:		
Interest and Dividends	473,995.64	
Return on Principal	<u>86,561.85</u>	
Total Dividend/Interest Income	560,557.49	
Securities, fair market value at December 31, 1999	13,333,883.03	
Securities, book value at December 31, 1999	<u>13,099,388.07</u>	
Unrealized gain on securities, December 31, 1999	<u>234,494.96</u>	
Total Additions:		\$2,004,525.41
Less Expenses:		
PO Box Rental	-44.00	
Jones Scholarship	-2,525.00	
Travel Expense	-450.14	
Property tax expense	-67.55	
Audit expense	-4,450.00	
Other expense	-315.57	
Development Prog. Reimbursement	<u>-50,000.00</u>	
	<u>-57,852.26</u>	
Less Distributions to Charities:		
Oxford	-125,00.00	
MESH	<u>-291,458.95</u>	
Total Expenses and Distributions:		-\$474,311.21
Cash and Equivalents	\$ 2,797,972.68	
Securities, book value at December 31, 1999	13,099,388.07	
Unrealized gain on securities, December 31, 1999	<u>234,494.96</u>	
Total Fund Balance December 31, 1999 (Market Value)		\$ 16,131,855.71

The Board of Directors of the North Carolina Masonic Foundation voted unanimously to distribute income from the Foundation account during the year 2000 to establish scholarships for the following Masonic youth organizations as follows:

DeMolay	\$2,000.00
Rainbow	1,500.00
Job's Daughter's	<u>750.00</u>
Total	\$4,250.00

All remaining funds after \$4,250.00 have been distributed will be divided equally between the Masonic Home for Children in Oxford and the Masonic and Eastern Star Home in Greensboro.

Respectfully submitted,
Charles E. Scott, President

Report of the Committee on Unfinished Business

(Docket No. 19)

The report of the Committee on Unfinished Business was received, entered on the record, and referred to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence. This report was respectfully submitted by Wayne D. Walker.

Proposed amendments to *The Code* contained therein are found along with their disposition in the Report of the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, Docket No. 46.

Report of the Code Commission

(Docket No. 20)

The following report of the Code Commission was received, and entered on the record:

To the Most Worshipful Grand lodge of North Carolina:

The Code Commission has met five times this year to accomplish its assigned purposes; that of helping to prepare and supervise the printing and distribution of all amendments to *The Code* as adopted by the Grand Lodge. Much of our efforts this year have been to evaluate present duties and responsibilities, and to propose amendments to Chapter 33 of *The Code* enlarging its membership from three to five members, and broadening the scope of responsibilities to receive copies of all proposed amendments to *The Code* as submitted within regulation and edit them for clarity and completeness before submission to the Grand Lodge for its action, and to assist members of the fraternity to properly propose amendments to *The Code* as may make *The Code* more useful and helpful to Freemasonry in North Carolina; and to monitor *The Code* and propose such changes to form and substance deemed helpful to Freemasonry in North Carolina. The Chairman has met with the Board of General Purposes to make progress reports, and has met with the Masonic Jurisprudence Committee during its deliberations and with lodges interested in proposals to amend *The Code* for future Grand Lodge consideration. It has been an active and interesting year.

Respectfully submitted,
T. Bruce Boyette, Chairman
Code Commission

Report of the Representative to the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association

(Docket No. 21)

The following report was received and entered on the record. The recommendation that the Grand Lodge continue its membership was adopted, and the matter of finances was referred to the Committee on Finance:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

Your representative attended the annual meeting of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Savannah, Georgia on Saturday, February 19, 2000. The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Edgar N. Peppler, Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey. A report was made by Brother George D. Seghers, the Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the memorial. A number of projects have been completed during the last year. The new administrative offices have been completed, the conference room renovation was completed, new flooring installed in the dining rooms, and the memorial website is completed and on line. Projects in progress include installation of a permanent handicap ramp in the auditorium, an upgrade of the computer system, retubing of the boiler, and restoration of the grounds. Building trademark registration is in progress, and will take approximately two years to complete. A highlight of the past year was Commemoration Day at the Memorial. On June 26th, 1999, Brother Pete Thomas attended the Commemoration and the dedication of the Square & Compasses now erected in front of the Memorial. Brother Thomas represented the Grand Lodge of North Carolina on behalf of our Grand Master. The ceremony and activities

attracted thousands, and the day was a great success for the Memorial and our Fraternity. The George Washington Masonic Memorial is owned by the Freemasons of North America, and is loved by Masons throughout the world. North Carolina Masons can be proud of their active involvement in supporting this outstanding symbol of the Fraternity. I would like to make the following recommendations:

1. That we maintain our membership in the Memorial Association.
2. That our subordinate Lodges schedule visits to the Memorial. The Lodge room there is available and our Lodges can schedule degree work. Many Lodges combine degree work with a Lodge outing with their families.
3. That we continue to support the Memorial, and where possible, that we increase the monetary contribution from our Grand Jurisdiction.

Respectfully submitted,
Tom W. Gregory, PGM
Representative

Report of the Representative to the Masonic Service Association

(Docket No. 22)

The following report was received and entered on the record. The recommendation that the Grand Lodge continue its membership was adopted, and the matter of finances was referred to the Committee on Finance:

To The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

The 81st Annual meeting of the Masonic Service Association of North America was held in Savannah, Georgia on February 20, 2000, in conjunction with the Annual Conference of Grand Masters of North America, which was attended by your Representative.

In keeping with the Masonic tradition of rendering service to mankind, the Masonic Service Association put out appeals in 1999 for disaster relief for affected states with the following remittances:

Kansas	\$ 65,500.00
Oklahoma	133,800.00
Alabama	5,125.00
North Carolina	131,000.00

The Grand Lodge of North Carolina is indeed grateful for the generous assistance to those who suffered extensive damage in the flooding that occurred as an aftermath of Hurricane Floyd.

An appeal was made by MSA for foreign relief for those countries that were ravaged by Hurricane Mitch in 1998 with the following results:

El Salvador	\$ 37,500.00
Guatemala	37,650.00
Honduras	53,500.00
Nicaragua	40,700.00

The MSA Hospital Visitation Program is administered by Brother Edward Rose, MSA Hospital Visitation Director. At each of the four Veterans Administration Medical Centers in North Carolina, Masonic volunteers render valuable services to the patients under the leadership of Veterans Affairs Volunteer Services Representatives. This is among the most respected and highly praised work that Masons do and represents a great sacrifice on the part of Masonic volunteers and says to those patients that "Masons Care And Will Always Be There." Your Representative visited each of the four VA Medical Centers during the last year and saw first hand the

unselfish services rendered to the patients by our Masonic volunteers. We owe them a debt of gratitude.

An arm of the Masonic Service Association, the Masonic Information Center provides a valuable service for Freemasonry in the production and distribution of factual Masonic information Booklets and brochures include "What's A Mason?," "Get A Life," "There Is No Sin In Symbols," "Facts About Freemasonry," and a new brochure, "Who Are The Masons?"

In addition to the above publications, the Masonic Information Center also publishes a quarterly newsletter "Focus." The MSA continues to print and distribute the "Short Talk Bulletin" and other digests and publications, which are available from the Masonic Service Association, 8120 Fenton Street, Silver Spring, Maryland. The MSA is under the very capable direction of Richard E. Fletcher, Executive Secretary and Past Grand Master of Vermont. As your representative to the Masonic Service Association, I make the following recommendations:

1. That we continue our membership in support of the Masonic Service Association.
2. That the lodges and members of this grand jurisdiction be kept informed in *The North Carolina Mason* of the education materials and other publications available from the MSA.
3. That the Grand Master continue the tradition of visitations to the VA Medical Centers of North Carolina.

Respectfully submitted,
L. R. "Pete" Thomas, Jr., PGM
MSA Representative

Petition for a Duplicate Charter

(Docket No. 23)

The following petition for a duplicate charter was received, entered on the record, and referred to the Committee on Charters and Dispensations:

WHEREAS, due to the flooding from Hurricane Floyd, Grifton Lodge No. 243, A. F. & A. M. experienced thirty-six inches of water in the lodge, and

WHEREAS, the charter of Grifton Lodge No. 243, A. F. & A. M. was damaged by flood waters beyond repair.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Grifton Lodge No. 243, A. F. & A. M. petitions this Grand Lodge for a "Duplicate Charter."

Respectfully submitted,
Henry R. Lewis, Jr.
Master

Petition For Concurrent Jurisdiction

(Docket No. 24)

The following petition for concurrent jurisdiction was received, entered on the record, and referred to the Committee on Charters and Dispensations:

WHEREAS, All of the lodges in Mecklenburg County except Mint Hill Lodge No. 742, A. F. & A. M. have consolidated their jurisdiction to be called concurrent jurisdiction, and

WHEREAS, the continued separated jurisdiction of Mint Hill Lodge No. 742, A. F. & A. M. will be detrimental to and have an adverse effect on the growth of Masonry in the area, and

WHEREAS, the officers and members of Mint Hill Lodge No. 742, A. F. & A. M. believe that the interest of Masonry in the area served by the hereinafter named Masonic Lodges will be best served if the territorial jurisdiction of said is changed and merged and made in all respects concurrent with each other;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That Phalanx Lodge No. 31, A. F. & A. M.; Williams Lodge No. 176, A. F. & A. M.; Long Creek Lodge No. 205, A. F. & A. M.; Excelsior Lodge No. 261, A. F. & A. M.; Matthews Lodge No. 461, A. F. & A. M.; Joppa Lodge No. 530, A. F. & A. M.; Temple Lodge No. 676, A. F. & A. M.; East Gate Lodge No. 692, A. F. & A. M. Charles M. Setzer Lodge No. 693, A. F. & A. M.; Friendship Lodge No. 700, A. F. & A. M.; St. Andrew's Lodge No. 702, A. F. & A. M.; Derita Lodge No. 715, A. F. & A. M.; Keystone Lodge No. 726, A. F. & A. M.; Steele Creek Lodge No. 737, A. F. & A. M.; West Gate Lodge No. 738, A. F. & A. M.; Newell Lodge 739, A. F. & A. M.; Mint Hill Lodge No. 742, A. F. & A. M.; James K. Polk Lodge No. 759, A. F. & A. M. located within the boundary of Mecklenburg County; respectively petition the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. in North Carolina, to grant concurrent jurisdiction to each of the eighteen Masonic Lodges heretofore named, over all the territorial jurisdiction now held by these lodges in Mecklenburg County; said territorial jurisdiction lying within the state nearer to such lodges than to another lodge in the state, the distance being measured in a direct or air line from the point in question to the lodge hall.

BE IT RESOLVED FURTHER, That it is the intent of each of the eighteen lodges heretofore named to approve and adopt this resolution and petition in its entirety without change, as it is written, and that upon the failure or refusal of any one of said lodges to do so this resolution and petition shall be null and void.

This certifies that the foregoing resolution and petition relating to the territorial jurisdiction of this lodge was adopted by this lodge and entered in the minutes at a stated communication held on 3rd day of February, 2000.

Mint Hill Lodge No. 742

By James B. McLaughlin, Sr. (sig)
Master

Attest:

Weldon R. Needham (sig)
Secretary

Petition For Restoration

(Docket No. 25)

The petition for Restoration of JBM, Jr., formerly a member of Seaside Lodge No. 429 was received, entered on the record and referred to the Committee on Appeals.

(Note: This petition was denied. See Report of the Committee on Appeals on page 222, Docket No. 44 of these Proceedings for action taken thereon.)

Report of the Grand Historian

(Docket No. 26)

The following report of the Grand Historian was received, and entered on the record:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

As North Carolina Masons enter a new century of service, it seems especially appropriate that we record, preserve, and study our history, for what we shall be as a people inevitably grows out of what we have been. As

the last century ended, we were reminded on a lovely Saturday in August that the past is not far distant from the present. On August 28th, 1999, Masons from more than 30 A. F. & A. M. and Prince Hall lodges gathered at Statesville to celebrate the centennial of the laying of the cornerstone for the Historic Iredell County Courthouse. After sharing a meal together, Grand Master Charles Ingram and Marvin Chambers, Grand Master of Prince Hall Masons in North Carolina, led the assembled Masons in a march to the Old Courthouse, now the Iredell County Government Center. We felt close to our Brothers of a century ago, remembering that they assembled much as we did and conducted a solemn service of consecration. The past felt very near as a copper box, carefully placed in the cornerstone one hundred years ago, was opened and historic documents of that time taken from it. It seemed particularly fitting that the ceremony was dedicated by its planners to the memory of David Sherrill Keller, who served as Grand Historian of North Carolina Masons during 1998 and 1999.

For many years, those who have been honored by appointment as Grand Historian have urged that we collect and transcribe our ancient records, and use them as the foundation for a comprehensive record of our Grand Lodge. As part of the Bicentennial Celebration in 1987, a number of our lodges prepared histories to be placed in the Grand Lodge Archives, but many others were not able to complete the task. I have spent much of this year as Grand Historian studying the history of Masonry in North Carolina, and becoming familiar with our available records. Those who labored in the North Carolina Lodge of Research No. 666 from its beginnings in 1931 until its charter was arrested in 1954 performed an invaluable service for Masonic researchers by gathering together a wealth of material on the early subordinate lodges, the early minutes of the Grand Lodge, accounts of the first Grand Masters, and brief biographies of Masons who have served as North Carolina's leading elected and appointed officials. The transcribed records and research were printed by the research lodge in much-prized volumes which are now out-of-print. I propose that during the coming year we reprint portions of the NOCALORE volumes, particularly the transcriptions of the early Grand Lodge minutes, accounts of our oldest lodges, and our earliest Grand Masters. The volume of reprints would include a full index and a short history of the Lodge of Research. Net proceeds from the sale of such a volume, which would be of interest to historians and genealogist across our state, would be used in the maintenance of the Grand Lodge Archives and Library.

Second, we should encourage all of our lodges to prepare a sketch of their history for inclusion in the Archives, and future use in a Grand Lodge History. There are many Masons interested in historical writing and preservation who could be called upon to assist any lodge desiring help in completing history. We also need to ensure that our local artifacts and records are properly stored and preserved for the future. In order to coordinate and carry these projects, we ought to survey our members to determine if there is interest in formation of a Masonic Historical Society which could assist in the collection and preservation of our history, including the writing and publication of a history of the Grand Lodge.

I have been honored to serve as your Grand Historian this past year, and am grateful to Most Worshipful Grand Master Charles Ingram for my appointment to that position. As I look from my office window each day at the historic State Capitol Building, I remember that the cornerstone for that building was laid by North Carolina Masons in an solemn ceremony of consecration on July 4th, 1833. From our ranks have come men who have served their state with distinction and with honor as governors, Supreme Court justices, land in a host of elected and appointed positions. For centuries, our lodges have been places of charity and sources of pride to

their communities. We owe a debt to those who have met with faith and dignity the challenges of the past and have persevered. That debt would be best paid by preserving the record of their accomplishments for our children and their generations, that their stories might light our way into the uncharted waters of a new century.

Respectfully Submitted,
Clarence E Horton, Jr.
Grand Historian

Report of the Library Committee

(Docket No. 27)

The following report of the Library Committee was received, and entered on the record:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina,

The work of the Library and Museum Committee is proceeding on a slow, but methodical course. Book preservation and cataloging is moving along. Our expected needs have grown to include the full archives of the Grand Lodge—old returns, records, and such.

A "clean room" with extra environmental control is the beginning of a safe and growing archive/library. As books and records are cleaned and protected, they are moved into the "clean room." As each current storage room is cleared, a new "clean room" will be created. Long term protection of records is a top priority. We discovered this year that many of the micro-filmed records of the Grand Lodge were breaking down. Those records have been copied onto new, and more permanent media.

We have been the recipient of many gifts recently, including a couple of large collections. We have been given sizable collections which belonged to our beloved Brother Fred Speidel of Raleigh and much respected Past Grand Master Wallace Caldwell. We are very appreciative of the trust their families and numerous other donors have shown in our Grand Lodge as a repository of Masonic history. Gifts of books or memorabilia are welcomed and protection is promised.

Brother Bryan Edwards of Manteo and his wife Faye have been indispensable in their labors for the Library. Both skilled archivists and historians, they have sacrificed weekends and personal lives to see that your archives are preserved for generations to come. Our thank yous are poor compensation, but offered with great sincerity.

We hope to be adding display cabinets and viewing of some of our artifacts in the near future.

Respectfully submitted,
Clifton W. Everett, Jr., PGM

The Board of Publications *The North Carolina Mason*

(Docket No. 28)

The following report of the Board of Publications of *The North Carolina Mason* was received, and entered on the record:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

The Board of Publications met several times during this Grand Lodge year.

The Grand Master made several requests and asked the Board of Publications to discuss a variety of subjects, among them:

1. Establish publication policies
2. Supervise our publications
3. Do a zero-based review of publications
 - a. Why do we have publications?
 - b. What do we want to accomplish with our publications?
 - c. What should we call our publication?
 - d. What is the best format to use?
 - e. What is the best size to use?
 - f. What is the best paper stock to use?
 - g. How often should we publish?
 - h. Should we accept paid advertisements?
4. Information that could be contained in the publication
 - a. Feature the best lodges
 - b. Letters to the editor
 - c. Articles pro and con
 - d. Publicize events
 - e. Publicize Grand Master's schedule
 - f. Publicize Grand Lodge activities
 - g. Publicize goals and objectives
 - h. Articles featuring Grand Lodge Officers
 - i. Articles by Grand Lodge Officers
 - j. Nomination/Application form (to identify brethren with needed skills and expertise)
 - k. Articles on Masonic education
 - l. Articles on Masonic history
 - m. Masonic poetry
 - n. Masonic obituaries
 - o. New Master Masons
 - p. Other ideas that the Board of Publications may want

The Grand Master specifically wanted the Board of Publications to review each printing of *The North Carolina Mason* before it went to press and mailed to the membership. However, the Board of Publications discussed this suggestion (to review each printing) and determined that *The North Carolina Mason* was already doing the job efficiently and professionally and a review of each printing is not necessary. Also, the format is the least expensive size for postage purposes. The Grand Master pointed out that *The Code* refers to the Board as the "Board of Publications." It is not the Board of Publications of the North Carolina Mason. The Grand Master also noted that under Regulation 34-20, the Board of Publications is to "have charge and supervision of the publication."

The Grand Master also requested the board take up the matter of who supervises and controls the Grand Lodge Website and the Tar Heel Mason Network. Those discussions have not taken place and are planned for 10 March. This report had to be in the Grand Secretary's Office no later than 01 March 2000; therefore, if the Board of Publications does discuss the issues of the Website and the Tar Heel Mason Network and if allowed and desired the Board of Publications will be pleased to submit a supplementary report at the Grand Lodge Annual Session or the Grand Secretary prior to the Grand Lodge Annual Session.

All members of the board were not in agreement with the Grand Master and some matters were never discussed.

Regulation 34-20 of *The Code* states that it shall be the duty of the Board of Publications to "establish the policies of the publication..." As far as members of the Board of Publications could determine a written "policy" had never been established. Therefore at a meeting held 11 October, 1999 the following policy was adopted as follows:

STATEMENT OF POLICY OF THE BOARD OF PUBLICATIONS

It should be the duties of the board to act in an advisory capacity to the editor and to oversee the publication(s). The purpose of the publication(s) should be to disseminate information regarding the happenings in the craft. The board should make policy decisions regarding the publication, but it should be left to the editor to make decisions as to content of each issue based on the value of the news to the readers of the publication. It should be presented in a straightforward and unbiased manner, regardless of the content of the story. The board should not make decisions regarding individual news stories unless the editor should ask for input. The board should review each issue, and make suggestions for improvement to the editor after the fact... not before.

The board also made its recommendation to the Finance Committee. The total amount recommended for the next Grand Lodge year is \$113,034.00, which is a 5.95% increase. The various line items are available in the Finance Committees' Report.

The most important action taken by the Board of Publications this year was to establish a written policy to govern the publications.

Respectfully submitted,
Benjamin F. Smith, Chairman

**Report of the Committee on
Subordinate Lodge Special Activities**

(Docket No. 29)

The following report of the Committee on Subordinate Lodge Special Activities was received, and entered on the record:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina

The Subordinate Lodge Special Activities Committee is once again glad to report that there has been a steady increase in the number of requests for fundraising projects this year, of which our Masonic Charities have greatly benefited. Additionally, there has also been an increase in fundraising activities for local charities. The Committee applauds those lodges who have reached out to assist their communities and individuals who are in such need. These are the very reasons that Freemasonry is so strong, and such a vibrant part of this great country and state.

We would continue to encourage each officer of their lodge to become familiar with *The Code* as it concerns fundraising activities. We would also suggest that each officer read Reg. 43-12 (Subordinate Lodge Powers and Duties) before planning a fundraising event. This, along with Reg. 77-1 (MINIMUM DUES), will provide a basic understanding of what a lodge must do to be in compliance with *The Code*.

The Committee will also as a reminder advise that in order to be in compliance with the North Carolina Department of Revenue, all nonprofit fraternal organizations can have one project of a type in a given calendar year without having to pay sales tax on the gross receipts from that project. The organization is responsible for paying sales tax on the gross receipts from any repeat of a project, for example—two food events within the same calendar year.

As we have entered into this new century, the Committee is happy to report that any member can now log-on to the Grand Lodge Web Site at: www.grandlodge-nc.org, and get a direct link to our Committee. Our committee address is: SpecialActivitys@aol.com—for information, questions, requests for forms, clarifications and/or any number of other reasons we are just a click away.

Additionally, our committee has developed and produced a "Reference Guide" brochure, which has Reg. 43-12 as well as the operating guidelines that our Committee subscribes to contained within it. The brochure is available by contacting our Director of Development, Brother Jim Medlin at the Grand Lodge, and/or the chairman of our committee. As a quick reference guide, and an educational tool, we would recommend that each warden obtain a copy and become familiar with it.

The Committee would like to thank all of the lodges who have submitted their requests in a timely manner to hold their fund raising projects and have followed through with their financial report within the sixty-day time period. We welcome your inquiries and comments and will do everything that we can to assist you with your projects and events.

As we conclude another Masonic Year, the Committee would like to recognize the many invaluable efforts of Brother Charles Ray Thomas for all the many generous hours of labor that he has contributed to making sure that our committee has run smooth and according to *The Code*. Brother Thomas has been a great asset to our Committee as its Chairman, and the Grand Lodge of North Carolina has been the benefactor of his many years of wisdom, guidance and experience. As I attempt to continue on the same Masonic path that Brother Thomas has traveled for so many years, I can only hope that I do as fine a job for you in the future, as he has done for us in the past.

Respectfully submitted,
John M. Burchfield, Chairman

Report of the Committee on Masonic Public Relations

(Docket No. 30)

The following report of the Committee on Masonic Public Relations was received, and entered on the record:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

The Committee on Masonic Public Relations met four times over the past Masonic year and was able to reach a number of assigned specific goals. This committee has accomplished the following objectives.

1. **Ground Zero Based Study:** This assignment was given to new committee member Richard Klein and his report was received and approved at the 11/24/99 PR Meeting held in Monroe, N. C.

PR Committees & Purposes:

- A. To inform the general public about the good work of the Masonic fraternity, it's members, it's leaders, it's functions, and it's charitable endeavors through the local blue lodges.
- B. To present a positive, uplifting image of Freemasonry among the general public and the membership.
- C. To demonstrate the pride of association in the Masonic fraternity as a means for encouraging present members to become more aware and active, and to show prospective members what Freemasonry represents.

- D. To provide to the media (through the local blue lodges) stories and pictures of interest to the general public that are related to Masonic functions both local and statewide.
- E. To balance some misconceptions and misunderstandings related to the fraternity by some members of the general public. (Can be done by making available the brochure *"Who Are The Masons."* This will answer questions for the general public and prospective members about our fraternity.)
- F. To encourage and promote positive demonstrations of Masonic friendship and fellowship in both Masonic-related functions and those that serve the general public.
- G. To present to members of the fraternity and the general public opportunities to better understand the goals, plans, and workings of the Grand Lodge.

2. **MSAP Billboard Program:** This program has been negotiated with Fairway Outdoor Advertising. We want to recognize Sales Mgr. James R. Ray in Greensboro for his efforts to get this project off the ground. The boards read as follows: North Carolina Masons—Helping Teachers Help Kids—1-888-505-HELP. The market value for the 50 donated boards a start-up is \$26,750.00. The boards from Fairway Advertising will appear from Statesville to the coast, concentrating on areas of Greensboro, Raleigh, Asheville, Goldsboro, etc.

3. **Masonic Home for Children Billboards:** We are still receiving gratis billboards from Adams Outdoor Advertising in Charlotte, NC. They have our new Masonic Logo and read 125 Years Helping Kids, The Masonic Home For Children, 888-505-HELP. These are spread over a 75 mile radius of Charlotte. Thanks to Kim Carpenter who has helped us so much from Adams Outdoor.

4. **Time Warner Cable in Monroe** has already approved the running of both our Masonic Programs *"Freemasonry a Way of Life"* and *"The Masonic Home for Children, a Place to Call Home."* We encourage contact from the subordinate lodges with the cable companies in their area to do the same.

Recommendations:

1. **Literature:** We strongly urge a reprinting of the pamphlet *"The Real Secret of Freemasonry—Making Good Men Better"* further suggests each lodge be sent an allotment with suggestions on where and how to distribute for greatest effectiveness.

2. **Open House Programs:** We strongly urge all lodges to request a copy of the Open House Program and use this valuable information to attract new members and educate prospective members of our Masonic Charities and their purpose. If used properly this can be a valuable tool for lodges. Use it my Brothers.

3. **Masons and the Scouting Program:** We have been in touch with the Scouting Program in Charlotte, NC and we are recommending that Masons get involved with a program to help Scouts reach their Eagle Scout Award. We have developed a plan with the Scouts and more information is forthcoming in 2000.

Finally, I would like to thank each member of this committee. These men serve with pride and have only the good of the fraternity at heart. They do this with no pay and expect none. These are hard working men and they deserve a round of applause from all of us for their tireless efforts to get the best job done for you. The Masonic PR Committee members consist of: Brother John Elmore, 33°, who serves as Secretary; Brother Chessley Greene; Brother Alvin Hardy; and Brother Richard A. Klein. Sub-Commit-

tee—Arts & Graphics; Brother C. Mitchell Griffin; and Photography, Brother Richard Mather.

Respectfully submitted,
James E. Reddish, Chairman

Report of the Committee on Masonic Education

(Docket No. 31)

The following report of the Committee on Masonic Education was received, and entered on the record:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

The directive of the Grand Master in 1999 was simple and exact. "Inform the Craft and make the stated communications more interesting." The Craft was informed. In eleven Winter Masonic Education Seminars held throughout North Carolina, representatives from the Committees on Finance and Masonic Jurisprudence presented and discussed the proposed changes to *The Code* to be voted upon at this Annual Communication. Interest in the subject matter was high and discussion was lively. From the comments and evaluations received, we are confident that each person attending one of the seminars left a better informed Mason and carried this information back to his lodge for a better informed craft. Today, the meetings are more interesting.

In October 1999 the Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Education issued the first of the Lodge Night Programs which were designed to create discussion and interest in the lodge. Each nightly program is formulated to introduce several topics or questions and solicit comments from Masons having thoughts on the subject. These ideas are then discussed by the members of the lodge. In each case, this exchange of thoughts creates an open dialogue which is both enlightening and enriching to those present. A brief overview of the Lodge Night Program was given at each of the Winter Masonic Education Seminars. In some cases, the brothers attending who were not really familiar with the program were determined they wanted to continue discussion of the sample topic presented. Their enthusiasm was overwhelming and we assured them that the same results can be obtained in their lodge. We encouraged them to take it back to the lodge, use it, learn from it, and enjoy it.

In addition, the Committee on Masonic Education has made exhaustive use of *The North Carolina Mason* for dissemination of information on the Winter Masonic Education Seminars, Lodge Night Program, and other Masonic Education topics. Yes brethren, this has been a good year for the Committee on Masonic Education, but it did not happen in a vacuum. If we had to use one word to define our year the word would have to be "support". Whenever we asked the Grand Master for something it was provided immediately with enthusiasm, encouragement, and a "what else can I do?". When we asked something of the Board of General Purposes the result was immediate and definite with a resounding "can we do more?" Not one request to a member of the grand line went unanswered. The support of the Past Grand Masters was verbal and obvious. Every request to *The North Carolina Mason* and its editor was performed completely and immediately. And little could have been done without the untiring support, aid, and efforts of the Grand Secretary and his staff of outstanding, caring, individuals.

As a personal note, I would like to thank every member of the committee for their unbelievable efforts and outstanding attitude. It has been an experience I will always treasure and value. In closing, we do hope you will enjoy and use the Lodge Night Program. We hope it will bring new interest

into your lodge. We did it for you, but to copy from a cosmetic commercial, "You're Worth It."

Respectfully submitted,
Daniel P. Weatherington, Secretary

Report of Grand Master's Special Committee on Insurance

(Docket No. 32)

The following report of the Grand Master's Special Committee on Insurance was received, and entered on the record:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

The Grand Lodge Special Committee on Insurance has completed a survey of insurance coverage of the Grand Lodge and its subordinate lodges and organizations. The purpose of this survey is to establish a database of the existing insurance coverage and cost throughout the jurisdiction. At this time, we have begun a study of the legal liability of these organizations. We have received responses from most of the lodges and are now nearing completion of the process of organizing the tabulation and analysis of this data. Once this is completed and reviewed, we plan to make substantive recommendations concerning coverage, cost, sources and procurement procedures.

Our goal was to be able to make our recommendations meaningful, useful and available by the time of the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge. The extent of the task and volume of information have made accomplishment of this goal in the time frame impossible. Our recommendation is to reappoint the committee for another one-year term in order to complete the task.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Burti, Chairman

Report of the Grand Master's Committee on Masonic Youth Organizations

(Docket No. 33)

The following report of the Grand Master's Committee on Masonic Youth Organizations was received and entered on the record and the portion pertaining to finance was referred to the committee on finance:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

It is my honor and pleasure to report to you on the activities of the three Masonic Youth groups sponsored by this Grand Lodge, and supported by dozens of Lodges, Districts, Masons, and Eastern Stars across the state. This has been a year of transition for two of these organizations, as well as a year of cooperation and progress. This committee met on several occasions to discuss the Grand Master's charge of conducting a review on the structure of these groups. Our discussions and analysis showed that our youth organizations are meeting the primary focus that each group has as its central and most important purpose—to build character in the youths they serve and to develop future leaders among our young people.

Communication issues were also discussed and each of the three groups are working within their monetary and volunteer limits to provide timely and pertinent information to its members and to other interested parties. Newsletters and printed communication is primarily used, which is only as effective as the volunteer (often times a youth) putting it together and the

limitation on circulation. This seems to work fine for those within the circle of each organization, but does not provide information to circulate to the rank and file Masons or to the general public. We plan to continue to submit articles to *The North Carolina Mason* on a regular and timely basis, as well as pursue ventures in cyberspace. Currently DeMolay in North Carolina has a web site www.ncdemolay.org, and in addition, a number of individual chapters, bethels and assemblies have established home pages which are managed and funded by adult and youth volunteers, and updated on a regular and continuous basis. The Job's Daughters International site is www.iojd.org and the International Rainbow site is www.iorg.org, both of which have links to sites in North Carolina. I encourage anyone who has not already visited these sites to take a look.

In Rainbow in 1999, their annual Grand Assembly was held in Raleigh in June. Miss Ashley Laurel Bashium from Gastonia was installed as their Grand Worthy Advisor. One of her projects this year is raising money for juvenile diabetes research. She has a number of projects planned for this year, including a "Walk to Cure Diabetes" planned for March, and a year long fund-raiser she has called "Nicholas Nutcracker Nibbles Nickel." In addition to these projects, she will lead her assemblies in a number of other activities which include visits to the Masonic and Eastern Star Home and the Shriner's Burn Center in Greenville. Rainbow, like the other youth organizations, is seeking to grow both in numbers and in assemblies. There has been some interest shown in the Charlotte area and elsewhere across the state. Mrs. Kay Letterman, the Supreme Deputy in North Carolina, welcomes any and all inquiries on how a Rainbow Assembly can be started or expanded in your lodge.

The DeMolays in North Carolina said goodbye this year to Dad E. John Elmore, who resigned as Executive Officer on December 31, 1999. Brother Elmore served this state for many years and brought fame and recognition to North Carolina by serving as Grand Master of DeMolay from June 1996-1997. His successor is Brother Timothy L. Shermer from Knightdale. We are all anxious to see the accolades that Dad Shermer can bring to this state with the help of his staff and the elected youth leaders. North Carolina was well represented in June by Dad Elmore and his staff in Kansas City at the International Supreme Council Session. The youths serving as representatives at that conference were State Master Councilor Nathan Shores from Salisbury and State Senior Councilor Matthew Hunt from Asheboro. In January, Brother Hunt was elected to the Office of State Master Councilor, with Brother Dan Critcher from Durham serving as Deputy. Membership and chapter development remain high on the list of priorities as the new century unfolds, with interest expressed in several areas of the state. North Carolina also encourages all Masonic groups to consider planting a seed for the future of Masonry by supporting or sponsoring a DeMolay Chapter.

Jobs Daughters were also witness to a change in their adult leadership as Mrs. Sandy Dunbar of Raleigh assumed the position of Supreme Deputy of the Carolinas. Mrs. Sherry Rose of Greensboro has succeeded her in the role of Jurisdictional Guardian. The Associate Jurisdictional Guardian is Brother Steve Revis of North Myrtle Beach, SC. At their annual meeting in October they installed Miss Irene Birbeck of Raleigh as Miss Carolinas Jobs Daughter, Miss April Hammond of North Myrtle Beach as Junior Miss Carolinas Jobs Daughter, Miss Krisalee Grey of New Bern as Miss Carolinas Congeniality, and Miss Amanda Hatfield of Raleigh as Jurisdictional Honored Queen. The bethels that make up the Carolinas jurisdiction have continued their support for the Hearing-Impaired Kids Endowment Fund (the HIKE Fund) and have had the opportunity to distribute two checks for \$1,500 in the last three years. In April they will distribute another check to a deserving, hearing-impaired child from North Carolina in the amount of \$3,000.00. At their International Session in Grand Rapids, Michigan, North

Carolina was well represented by a group from the Carolinas, and Miss Jackie Walston from New Bern competed for the office of Miss International Jobs Daughter. Even though she was not successful in her quest, the eleven girls and five adults learned much from the other states and countries represented at the conference. This year saw the closing of one bethel in Jacksonville, however they are looking at the possibilities of starting another in Greensboro. Like the other groups, they look to this Grand Lodge for your time and support.

As you can see, the Masonic youth in this state continue to be a vibrant and active art of the Masonic family. Those of you that have attended a function in 1999 can probably attest to that fact. We are looking at several areas to expand the benefits of the Grand Lodge's association with these groups. We would encourage the continuation of the Masonic Youth Activities Day, held this past March in Oxford, and we are pursuing a proposal for a Grand Lodge Scholarship program to benefit the Masonic Youths, which is to be funded through the auspices of the North Carolina Masonic Foundation. Both these programs promote the youth not only within their membership, but also to the Masons in this jurisdiction and to the community at large. These are just two of the projects that this committee is developing for the year 2000 and beyond.

In conclusion, speaking on behalf of the youth of this state, the adult leaders, and as a Senior DeMolay and advisor myself, we appreciate the support and encouragement that the Grand Lodge of North Carolina provides to us. As you support the work of these young people, you are planting the seeds that will lead to future growth and leadership in the Masonic fraternity. Over the past year I am aware of a number of senior members of all of these groups petitioning and becoming members in Freemasonry and its appendant bodies. I'm certain there are dozens more that I'm not aware of. As was mentioned in the film *Field of Dreams*, "If you build it they will come...", our committee encourages you to help build the foundation of Freemasonry in the future, by continuing and expanding your support for these groups. As time goes on, they will come.

Respectfully submitted,
Charles V. Rouse, Jr., Chairman

Report of the Board of Custodians

(Docket No. 34)

The following report of the Board of Custodians was received, and entered on the record:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

The Board of Custodians for 1999/2000 is comprised of the following members: Danial M. Hogue, Jr., Grand Lecturer; William L. Dill, Chairman; Ottis R. Jefferson, Jr.; Ted Campbell; Carl R. Patton; John W. Johnston; James Earl Vann; and J. Luigi Ammons, secretary and non-member. To begin the year, Most Worshipful Charles M. Ingram charged the Board of Custodians to analyze a zero-based review, with several topics relating to the ritual of our state as compared to neighboring states. This task was one of the major goals of the Board for the year.

During the month of September the Certified Lecturer examinations were conducted across the state in the locations of Clinton, Greensboro, Charlotte, and Asheville. The examination scheduled for Area I in Greenville was canceled due to the flooding catastrophe and was rescheduled on December 6, 1999. The totals for the examinations are as follows: There were 461 Certified Lecturers beginning on September 1, 1999. The examination results for 1999 were as follows: new As - 9; re-new As - 63; new Bs - 5; re-new Bs - 1; and 1 upgrade from B to A. There were 8 deceased and

30 extensions granted to those brethren who failed to appear for re-examination. We now have a total of 439 Certified Lecturers in North Carolina.

During the course of the year there have been a few lodges who have failed to meet the requirements for a School of Instruction as set forth by the Board of Custodians in the April 1996 revision. The current attendance requirement for a School of Instruction consists of three officers and four members for the full six hours of instruction. If a lodge misses two Schools of Instruction in succession, that lodge is required to hold a fifteen hour Lecture Service. Nearly all of the subordinate lodges have complied with these rules. There have been a few isolated cases where a lodge has been requested to hold a Lecture Service. The Board is encouraging the lodges to comply with the new rules and asking the District Deputy Grand Lecturers to enforce these rules in their respective districts.

If the lodge work begins to deteriorate, the Lecture Service may need to be re-instituted.

The OSW revision has been completed. The revision committee consisting of Brothers H. V. Massengill; Robert D. Street; Bunn T. Phillips, PGM; Robert K. Braswell; and J. Luigi Ammons, spent numerous hours studying and making the needed changes. The majority of the changes involve additional "red work" to make the ritual more precise and explanatory in the floor movements of the lodge. The Board of Custodians made a motion to accept the approved changes and a copy was forwarded to the Board of General Purposes for their approval. Upon review, the Board of General Purposes approved the changes, and sent them back to Custodians, for the final stage of the revision process, that includes mailing copies of the changes to the subordinate lodges. A motion was made and approved by Board of Custodians and the Board of General Purposes to leave the "black work" lettered as it is now, and to print the "red work" in English, excluding the "secrets." This approval will be voted on at Grand Lodge this year.

The Board held two training session seminars this year for District Deputy Grand Lectures, in conjunction with the District Deputy Grand Masters. These two district officers work together in their respective districts, so the group training sessions should prove to be productive for the harmony of each district. The first seminar was held in Greensboro on December 11, 1999 and the second seminar was held in Oxford on March 25, 2000.

The Board of Custodians would like to extend their sincerest appreciation to Most Worshipful Charles M. Ingram for his support to the Board during his year as Grand Master, to Danial M. Hogue, Jr., for his tireless efforts as Grand Lecturer, and to Walt Clapp, Grand Secretary, for his valuable assistance and guidance during the year. The Board of Custodians would also like to express their appreciation to the 65 District Deputy Grand Lecturers of this Grand Jurisdiction who have served Masonry well and supported the decisions of the Board.

Respectfully submitted,
J. Luigi Ammons, Secretary

Laudamus Certificates Presented — 1999-2000

Last Name	First	Middle	Lodge Name	Number
Keeton, Jr.	Charlie	Thaxton	Henderson	229
Blackburn	Colonel	Dwight	Traphill	483
Bivins	Charles	Fischer	Burlington	721
Surratt	Dolan	Allen	Denton	404
Kossove	Harold	Joseph	Keyston	726
Walters	Jack	L.	James B. Green	735

Letchworth	John	Wayne	Thomasville	214
Lewis	Kenneth	Edgar	Old Town	751
Laton	Luther	James	Pee Dee	150
Jones	Orville	Lee	Franklin	109
Lane	Rowell		John H. Mills	624
Oxendine	Stacy	Lee	Charles M. Setzer	693
Hall	Victor	Michele	Queen City	602
Combs	William	Dennis	LaFayette	83

Report of the Task Force on Masonic Leadership Development

(Docket No. 35)

The following report of the Task Force on Masonic Leadership was received and entered on the record:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

Recognizing that in many areas of Masonry that leadership development and training are non-existent; and, realizing that the Grand Lodge of North Carolina is obligated to do everything in its power to ensure well-trained officers of its respective Blue Lodges, men who will be prepared and ready to assume the mantle of leadership when the time comes, Grand Master Charles M. Ingram appointed a Task Force for Leadership Development and charged it with the responsibility to design and execute a state-wide, on-going, continuing program of leadership development for the officers of the local lodges and, in fact, for all interested brothers who wish to avail themselves of this opportunity.

Representing a cross-section of the membership of Masons in North Carolina, the Task Force planned and executed an introductory session of leadership training in Greensboro on January 22, 2000. The District Deputy Grand Masters, the District Deputy Grand Lecturers, the grand line officers, the Board of Custodians, and the members of the Task Force, over 165 strong, met at the Masonic Temple in Greensboro for the morning session; the group adjourned to the Masonic and Eastern Star Home for lunch and a stimulating program by Brother and Doctor Tom Boduch and Brother Don Jones, both of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee. Bro. Boduch spoke on Tennessee's program of building a habitat home in the home area of each Grand Master during his particular administration. Bro. Jones presented an intense appeal for Masons to join the organ donor program, he, himself, being a recipient of a heart.

Afterwards, the DDGMs and the DDGLs met separately for further discussion. The same groups met again in March, 2000 at the Masonic Home for Children in Oxford for further training in leadership. With the appointment of a new district officer, the District Leadership Chairman, who will be a resource person to aid and assist the respective lodges in the district in making Masonry relevant to today's culture, the Grand Lodge of North Carolina is moving ahead in this critical area, an area that will provide good, sound, solid, interesting, enthusiastic leadership down through the years. An Awards and Leadership Banquet is to be held at the Annual Communication, as this program continues to address the critically important issues facing every leader in Masonry.

Respectfully submitted:
James E. Vann, Chairman

Report of the Strategic Planning Committee

(Docket No. 36)

The following report of the Strategic Planning Committee

was received and entered on the record:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

It is a distinct privilege and a great personal pleasure to submit this first report (in what we hope will be a series of actionable reports) on the activities and ultimately the recommendations of the Strategic Planning Committee. What follows should serve to familiarize the reader with the genesis of this Committee, its organizational structure, current status, and planned future activities.

Genesis

In the Fall of 1999, Charles Ingram, Grand Master, proposed to this writer the concept of a functioning strategic planning committee for the Masonic fraternity in North Carolina. This idea was borne out of:

- a) genuine concern for the future of the Craft, given certain present and disturbing negative trends,
- b) the observation that the Craft, unlike more successful private industries and the military, for example, had so far not embraced the concepts of envisioning its future and pro-actively planning for it, and
- c) the realization that to continue "business as usual" would not likely reverse these negative trends, and would therefore not be in the Craft's best long term interests.

Task organization and Committee membership recruitment then began in earnest, as did personal conversations with the Grand Lodge officers, to familiarize them with the Committee's proposed activities, gather input, and address any concerns. A preliminary organizational meeting was held in the Grand Lodge Conference Room in Raleigh on December 2, 1999 (see Minutes, attached) to discuss and firm up organizational plans.

Following that pursuit, Committee function and budgetary concerns and questions were raised (concerning the long range function of the Committee) in some quarters during January and February 2000, which were subsequently addressed, and the Committee membership was finalized. With the assurances obtained during this process, the SPC Chairman then proceeded with Committee agendas.

The Philosophy

It follows, then, that for this situation (a, b, c above) to be altered to the positive, some sort of changes have to take place. If we want to be more successful, perhaps we should learn from and in some cases emulate the policies of other organizations who seem to be enjoying more success, or have avoided the problems we seem to be facing. But, are we talking about "change just for change's sake?" What changes, specifically?

Given the above, obvious questions arise. What realities does the Craft face in the next five years? Specifically, what needs "fixing?" In what direction should we proceed?

The above has been sensed by most Freemasons for the past 20 years, at least. And the clarion call "To Arms" has resounded in and about the apartments of the Temple for equally as long. But sounding the call to arms is not enough—a different vision and mental set are required.

In short, a basic rethinking of the many aspects of the Craft, and its relevance in the everyday life of its members appears to be in order.

This rethinking started with in-depth understanding of the strategic planning process, which premises the belief that the future can be carefully envisioned, meticulously planned for, and thus pro-actively "shaped" to become what is envisioned. This is quite different from the only real

alternative—"brushfire management", or trying to react to a changing environment after the fact, and "patching" as we go.

In any event, we are where we are—to be somewhere else requires a different tack.

Organization

One major problem with a strategic planning effort of this magnitude is how to actually approach the challenge—the desired future has to be envisioned, our mission has to be formulated and clearly articulated, current policy and procedures have to be critically assessed, and where necessary, plans put in place which will lead directly and measurably toward that vision. Not the least of the issues is the selection of Committee members who can bring both objective, critical assessment and innovative visioning and problem-solving skills to bear on the subject. An environment had to be created within which nontraditional "outside the box" thinking can flourish and be focused on the issues, all within a logistically practical and financially doable format.

To that end, the Strategic Planning Committee has organized itself as follows:

- The strategic planning effort is currently guided by a Steering Committee, consisting of the SPC Chairman and the Chairs/Co-Chairs of five distinct Sub-Committees;

- All aspects of North Carolina-based Freemasonry and Masonic organizational life and function have been subdivided into these five major categories:

- Business Operations
- Personal Growth and Development
- Lodge Life
- Futurism
- Administration

- Each Sub-Committee is formed of members residing within an approximate one-hour radius, which facilitates regular local meetings at substantially reduced operational cost, and minimizes routine, long distance travel to Raleigh for meetings.

These groups are situated in the general WNC, Charlotte, Raleigh, Greensboro, and ENC areas;

- Each of the five Sub-Committees (each with three to five members) directs its focus on one of the above-mentioned categories only;

- Nominations for potential Committee membership were solicited and/or received from the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, and Senior and Junior Grand Wardens;

- From a master list, Sub-Committee Chairmen, Co-Chairmen, and Committee members have been personally contacted and recruited;

- Sub-Committee investigational and planning assignments have been established and distributed for review and action.

Sub-Committee Assignments/Orientation

The sub-committees will address the following specific topics:

S/Cmte #1—Business Operations

General business operations of the Craft

Masonic foundations—Masonic & Eastern Star Home, Inc.

Masonic Home For Children, Inc.

The North Carolina Masonic Foundation, Inc.

Committee On Finance

Investments

Corporate business

- Fundraising
- Insurance
- Grand Lodge physical plants
- Zero-based budgeting/investment reviews

S/Cmte #2—Personal Growth & Development

- Masonic education
- Committee On Masonic Research & Development
- Leadership Development & Training—
 - Masters, Lodger Officers, DDGMs, DLCs
- Member development
- Ritual
- Motivation/Inspiration

S/Cmte #3—Lodge Life

- New member orientation
- Lodge activities—Entertainment
 - Projects
 - Fundraising
- Community Relations—Publicity & Public Relations
 - Committee On Masonic Public Relations
 - Open House
- Mentor Program
- Fraternalism
- Family
- Communications—Trestleboards
 - Intra-lodge
 - Members
 - Widows
- Fraternal Relations—Scottish Rite
 - York Rite
 - Eastern Star
 - DeMolay/Rainbow
 - Other

S/Cmte #4—Futurism

- Non-member—Member development “Forward Thinking”
- Future Roles—Masonic organization
 - Grand Lodge officers
 - Lodge officers
- Visioning
- Mission strategies
- Goals/Objectives

S/Cmte #5—Administration

- Concept: “Enabling”/supporting the functions of other groups
- Management
- Organization—Job descriptions
 - Structure
- Computerization/management information services
- Boards/commissions/committees
- Role of Field Staff—DDGMs
 - DDGLs
 - DLCs

Board of General Purposes

Code/Changes

Grand Lodge Communications—Emergent
Stated

Fiscal year issues

SPC Committee Function

The Strategic Planning Committee functions as follows:

- Each Sub-Committee meets locally, pursues its agenda, and formulates recommendations based on its findings, and consistent with vision and mission concepts;
- Once findings are complete and recommendations are formalized, each Sub-Committee will present its recommendations at a quarterly meeting of the entire Sub-Committee for full consideration and review;
- Once agreed upon by the full Committee, the Committee will forward its recommendations to the Grand Lodge through the appropriate vehicle (such as the Board of General Purposes) for its consideration;
- At that point, the Grand Lodge can either adopt or reject the recommendation, request additional information, return to the Committee for further action, or other.
- The Steering Committee interacts more frequently, providing scope and direction.

The quarterly full Strategic Planning Committee meetings in Raleigh are scheduled for :

Saturday, June 3, 2000

Saturday, September 9, 2000

Saturday, December 2, 2000

As always, questions and/or comments from all interested parties are warmly invited.

Respectfully submitted,
Bill Burkett

Report of the North Carolina Masonic Development Program

(Docket No. 37)

The following report of the North Carolina Masonic Development Program was received, entered on the record, and referred to the Board of General Purposes:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

This is the sixth year of the Development Program for our North Carolina Masonic Charities. We have truly been blessed by our lodges supporting our children and elder brothers and sisters in annual contributions. This is the second year, in the last six years, where the annual fund supporting annual operations in our homes exceeded \$2,000,000. Over the past six years we have averaged over 14% growth per year in contributions from our brothers and friends supporting the annual funds.

But the most impressive growth is reflected in the six-year average Masonic gift. From 1994 through 1999 the six-year average reflects that the 1999 annual giving from our Masonic Brethren and friends to our North Carolina Masonic Charities grew by 17.8% per annum. Thus, in 1994 the average North Carolina Master Mason gave \$16.16 supporting annual

operations and in 1999 the average gift was \$36.62 which represents more than double growth dollars coming from the average gift presented to our NC Masonic Charities.

More importantly, the legacy gifts coming to our North Carolina Masonic Charities has amounted to over \$10,500,000 over the past six-year period. That equates to over \$2,100,000 per year over the same time frame. That wonderful philanthropic growth has allowed our charities to grow their endowments and better support their annual operations, now and in the future.

The Grand Master's Five Star Program was an overwhelming success in 1999. One hundred and six (106) lodges qualified for the Five Star as compared to last year 61 lodges qualified. These 106 lodges sent to our North Carolina Masonic Charities over \$850,000. They truly performed in a stellar manner for our kids and elder brothers and sisters.

In 1999 your Development Officer completed 35 training sessions all over the state. These sessions were attended by over 600 Masons who wanted to know more about fundraising for our Masonic Charities, their local communities, and their local lodges. These training sessions included history of our charities, how to fundraise, examples of fundraising activities, and clarifications on state and federal laws governing fundraising activities. More of these training sessions will be planned.

In summary, our North Carolina Masonic Charities received in 1999: in the NC Masonic Foundation, \$136,204.34; The Masonic and Eastern Star Home, \$681,791.72; The MESH Care Center, \$536,328.36; and The Masonic Home for Children at Oxford \$767,323.04; for a total annual contribution effort of \$2,122,647.46.

We have finished one millennium and are beginning a new age. We are embarking on a new era of Masonic Good Works. The old millennium, we finished in record fashion. We supported children and elder brothers and sisters in a noble manner and we can be proud of our legacy and heritage. With the new millennium at hand, we start afresh with the bright eyes of the innocent child and the seasoned knowledge of the Master Craftsman. We live by Faith, Hope and Charity, and know that the greatest of these is Charity, or Love, as we carry on with our heritage.

Thank you my Brothers for all that you do for Freemasonry in our great and grand jurisdiction.

Respectfully submitted,
James L. Medlin,
Director of Development

Resolution-Re: Change of the Order of Business

(Docket No. 38)

Whereas, the present Order of Business of the annual communication was adopted in 1995, and

Whereas, *The Code* states that the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence presents its reports on the second day of the annual meeting, and

Whereas, the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence was permitted to make its report on the first day in 1988, and

Whereas, *The Code* allows for changes in the order of business by delegates.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the business of the Committee

on Masonic Jurisprudence commence during the Friday afternoon session of the annual communication.

Respectfully submitted,
Charles M. Ingram,
Grand Master

The Grand Lodge approved the Resolution

Called From Labor To Refreshment

Prayer was offered by Acting Grand Chaplain A. G. Cobb, and the Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment until 1:15 P.M.

First Day-Afternoon Session Call To Order

Grand Master Charles M. Ingram called the Grand Lodge meeting to order at 1:15 P.M. on Friday, April 28, 2000.

Presentation of Masonic Youth Organizations' Representatives

Past Grand Master William B. Brunk introduced the speakers from the youth organizations.

Kay F. Letterman, supreme deputy in North Carolina, International Order of the Rainbow for Girls addressed the Annual Communication:

Most Worshipful Grand Master Ingram, Deputy Grand Master Cathey, Grand Lodge Officers, Distinguished Guest and members all:

Once again it is indeed a pleasure to come before the Grand Lodge and introduce to you a lovely Rainbow Girl. Our organization always enjoys the opportunity to come before you fine brethren and bring greetings.

The Rainbow Girls continue to still need your support with our assemblies across the state. I encourage you to show more interest in your community and begin an assembly in it. Don't say that someone else will do it because you are too busy, I place this responsibility in your hands because you are the one to do it. There is no one else but you. The girls are the life of tomorrow. Without these youth organizations, our adult organizations will not have a future.

This afternoon I have the pleasure to present to you a lovely young lady that truly represents what a Rainbow Girl is. She is a member of Gastonia No. 19, an Eastern Star and a member of the White Shrine. Ashley is a sophomore at North Carolina State University where she is majoring in pre-med. Her plans are to do research in juvenile diabetes as Ashley has been a diabetic since she was twelve years old and wears an insulin pump. One of her projects is "Nicholas Nutcracker Nibbles Nickels" where she is raising money for juvenile diabetes research.

Another project she has sponsored is "Beanies for Preemies." She has been collecting beanie babies to donate to the hospitals to be used in the neonatal unit to be placed beside the babies for comfort and security. It's hard to realize that when some babies are born they are the same size or smaller than a beanie baby.

It give me great pleasure to present to you a truly lovely young lady that has a beautiful smile and a kind word for everyone, Miss Ashley Laurel Bashioum, Grand Worthy Advisor of the Grand Assembly of North Carolina, International Order of the Rainbow for Girls.

Grand Worthy Advisor, International Order of Rainbow for Girls in North Carolina, Ashley Bashioum delivered the following message:

Most Worshipful Grand Master Ingram, Deputy Grand Master Cathey, Grand Lodge Officers, Distinguished Guests and Members All:

Good afternoon! I am happy to bring greetings too you from North Carolina Rainbow and Mrs. Kay Letterman, our Supreme Deputy. It is an honor to stand before you this afternoon to speak about an organization that has been a part of my life for many years. The International Order of the Rainbow for Girls is a Masonic Youth Organization for girls ages 11-21. It

instills in its members the virtues of love, the importance of religion, an appreciation for nature, knowledge of immortality, the significance of fidelity, and a love of patriotism. Most importantly, though, Rainbow teaches girls to devote their lives to service.

Through this service to others, the girls benefit greatly. This organization builds character, improves self-confidence, teaches important virtues, and provides its members with a background that will make them confident and strong. These qualities will go with them for the rest of their lives, just as this organization will remain in their hearts forever.

I have seen so much positive growth in so many young lives that Rainbow has touched. I have seen it in myself. This wonderful youth organization transforms timid young girls into polished young women. And just think...you have made this possible. As our sponsoring order, you are the ones that are responsible for this wonderful youth organization that I represent. I thank you so much for that sponsorship, for Rainbow has been one of the BEST experiences in my life. It has given me opportunities that I never could have dreamed of. I challenge you to give this opportunity to someone else. Membership in Rainbow is declining, as is membership in most of the Masonic organizations these days. You have the ability to build that membership back up. I ask you to invite your daughters, granddaughters, nieces, and friends to join Rainbow. Give them the opportunity to receive everything that Rainbow has to offer. We need you to do this so that Rainbow will prosper and continue to touch so many young lives for this generation and for generations to come.

I wish you and your members a most prosperous and harmonious year. I would like to thank you for all of the courtesies extended to me and for the opportunity to address you on behalf of Rainbow. Thank you.

Irene Birbeck, Miss Job's Daughter of the Carolinas,
delivered the following address:

Most Worshipful Grand Master Ingram, Deputy Grand Master Cathey,
Distinguished Officers and East, Members and Friends:

Good Afternoon. Again my name is Irene Birbeck and I am the Miss Job's Daughters of the Carolinas for the International Order of Job's Daughters. I am also a member of Bethel No. 2 in Raleigh, North Carolina. It is my extreme pleasure on this occasion to bring you greetings on behalf of the Jurisdictions of the Carolinas.

As Miss of the Carolinas I travel across both North and South Carolina to speak to many Masonic Bodies. However, it still takes my breath away to see so many collecting to celebrate this organization and join in fellowship. It is amazing to think that all of you in this room are connected to the Masonic Fraternity. But, the biggest reason that I am so impressed by each and everyone of you in this room, is that you are the reason that I am active in a Masonic Youth Group: Job's Daughters.

Customarily I would tell you about our organizations past. I'd tell you how Mrs. Ethel T. Wead Mick started an organization in 1920 for young women that shaped them into strong, upright, and faithful citizens. I'd tell you about Job's Daughters and our principles of patience, reverence for God; respect for our country, obedience to our parents and guardians and love for one another. I might tell you that we are an International youth group reaching the shores of Canada, Australia, Brazil and the Philippines as well as most of the United States. And I'd probably tell you about our international philanthropic project called HIKE.

But I'm not going to today. I've never been one much for conformity. Instead, I would like to tell you about a flower I saw on the highway the

other day. I was attempting to make it from Chapel Hill to Raleigh on Thursday before Easter but traffic was not moving. I conceded defeat in my little car, turned off the engine and decided to wait. On days like these nothing seems to go right, so of course my air conditioning was not working and neither was my radio. So I rolled down my windows and occupied myself with the scenery. This is when I spotted a flower. One singular Dogwood flower on the branch of a mighty Dogwood tree. The flower hung alone, it's perfect four petals had no company on the lonely forgotten branch. This season's bad weather, rain, and wind had stripped the tree of all of its buds and all that remained was one. As I sat there admiring the tree and its flower, for I had nothing else to do, I was a teenager without a radio; a strong gust of wind came up and took that last flower from the tree. I was saddened. A tree that gave life and support to this little bud had lost its paternal connection. Eventually traffic broke free, and the world moved on but I was left to wonder about the flower. I thought a lot about what saddened me, and thus I tell you this true story.

That mighty Dogwood tree is much like North Carolina Masons as well as Masons everywhere, strong and firm in position, with branches upright reaching toward the sky. Masons have given life to youth organizations, like the tree gave life to those beautiful blossoms. You have nourished and supported us both financially and with donated time. But unfortunately I come to you after, or should I say bad weather for Masonic Youth. We as Job's Daughters are so strong but very small in number. We hang on to you as Masons as our one support. See, in order to be a member of our order a girl must be between the ages of eleven and twenty and be a direct descendent of a Master Mason. It limits our membership but we feel it makes us closer to the Masonic principles. And thus our three bethels in the Carolinas, one Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, and two in North Carolina including Raleigh and in New Bern, look back to you, need you for support. I would hate for Job's Daughters or any of Masonic Youth to be that blossom that couldn't hold and was lost forever.

Luckily, unlike a tree you have the power and ability to hold on to Masonic Youth. You have the ability to continue to love and care for our orders. It doesn't take that much. You can volunteer your time at our bethels, if you have daughters, granddaughters, niece's, etc., you could tell them about Job's. Visit the bethel nearest you or at the very least talk about Job's Daughters when you return to your own lodge. Tell your brethren that we are here and are in need of help. I promise you that this will be beneficial to both of us. Because as you've heard before the youth of today are the leaders of tomorrow. A loved and supported order will grow up to return that love and support to Masons. I wish I could go back to that same spot I sat in traffic. If I had the chance I would take the flower and glue it onto the tree so the bond could never be broken. I don't have that power. You as Masons do. We the youth are your flowers, still holding on strong. Please, please never let us go.

Most Worshipful Grand Master Ingram, Deputy Grand Master Cathey, I now present you with a pin. This is our founding pin for the Jurisdiction of the Carolinas. Along with wearing our pin I ask you to spread the word of what Job's Daughter's is about while the members of Job's Daughters will do the same for this organization.

Again, I would like to extend greeting on behalf of the Jurisdiction of the Carolinas and thank you for letting me speak to you this afternoon. Thank you.

Past Grand Master of DeMolay International, State Executive Officer for DeMolay, Tim Shermer introduced State

Master Councilor, Order of DeMolay, Matthew D. Hunt, who delivered the following address:

Most Worshipful Grand Master Charles Ingram, Deputy Grand Master Cathey, DAD Tim Shermer, Grand Lodge Officers and Members of the North Carolina Grand Lodge:

Greetings from North Carolina DeMolay:

It is truly a great honor and privilege to be able to stand before such a distinguished group of Gentlemen and Masons. I would like to start off by thanking the Grand Master for giving North Carolina DeMolay the opportunity to not only speak before you but allowing us to set up an information booth. I am looking forward to meeting each of you. All you have to do is stop by and ask about your order for young men.

Before I get into the point of my speech, I would first like to tell you a story.

The Carpenter

An elderly carpenter was ready to retire. He went to his employer-contractor and told him his plans to leave the house building business and live a more leisurely life with his wife, and enjoy his extended family and maybe even travel a little. He would miss the paycheck terribly, but he and his wife could get by.

The contractor was sorry to see him go and asked him if he would build one more house. As a personal favor. "You know one for good times sake," the contractor said.

The carpenter agreed, but in time one could tell that his heart was not in his work. He resorted to shoddy workmanship and used inferior materials. It was an unfortunate way to end such a dedicated career.

When the carpenter had finished he called his boss to come and inspect it. The contractor stopped in the front yard where the carpenter was standing and said, "I trust your work, you have been a loyal and dedicated employee for years so here you go." The contractor threw him the keys. "It is all yours, my gift to you."

The carpenter was in shock! What a shame. If I only knew I was building my own house, I would have done so much better he thought. After the contractor left, he sat and thought of what he would have done differently if he had only known. "The things I would have done differently," he said.

Gentlemen I would like to prove to you that DeMolay is your future. Yes that is right, your future. You are the builders of your Lodges and Freemasonry in North Carolina, and we are the brick and mortar.

Have you ever asked yourself is there a way to insure membership in your lodge, at least for the future? Well there is actually a great way for you to do so. You can promote DeMolay. Statistics have shown us that over 50% of DeMolay members actually go on to join the blue lodge. My chapter has over 50 active members on roster right now. That means that in the next few years over 30 of them will join a lodge. Man the guys in the 37th Masonic district must be smiling. We have started to prove this. Last year we had our first members to reach majority. One of them has already been raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason.

A few years ago a State Master Councilor stood before you and challenged you. He said, "If you give me 1000 new DeMolay members I will give you in due time 500 masons." Well, I would like to continue that challenge. I challenge you the Masons of North Carolina to build your house a better foundation. Our organizations depend on one thing to continue, and that is **New Membership!!!** If you will work hard with me and DAD Shermer to build North Carolina DeMolay, I will in return guarantee you new membership in the future.

I am sure there must be at least two questions running through your head! (A) What is DeMolay? A few of you I am sure have heard of it but aren't sure what it really is. DeMolay is the premier youth organization dedicated to teaching young men to be better persons and leaders. Under the "advisorship" of adults; leadership skills, civic awareness, responsibility, and character development are learned through a variety of self directed real world applications and activities. DeMolay builds confidence; teaches responsibility, cooperation and community service; and fosters trust, respect, fellowship, patriotism, reverence, and sharing in brotherhood.

(B) What can I do to help? I am sure there are a lot of you asking this question. Well I know that there isn't a DeMolay Chapter for every Lodge or District. But your lodge does have a Committee appointed just for DeMolay. You can always volunteer your services. You can look into even going as far as starting a Chapter in your area. Nonetheless, you can support the Masonic Youth Movement.

Gentlemen build your future wisely. President George Bush once said, "The future of America lies within our youth." Well, I believe that the future of Masonry lies within its youth.

Thank you for your time and have a good day.

Called From Refreshment to Labor

Grand Master Charles M. Ingram called the communication from refreshment to labor.

Report of The Committee On Necrology

(Docket No. 39)

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

Symbols. We know about symbols. Everything we do in masonry is veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols. We learn this at the earliest age in masonry. Life is full of symbols.

Take for example this Masonic Bible. It belonged to my grandfather who was a member of Royal White Hart Lodge No. 2. It means more to me than anything else in this Grand Lodge not just because of what it was, but because of whose it was. Thus, it is a symbol of my relationship with my grandfather who, masonically speaking, was also my brother.

This trowel was given to his home lodge in 1958. It was to be used by the Secretary to open letters. It is symbolic of our working tools and the spread of brotherly love and affection. It is symbolic to me for another reason. It was a gift to the lodge during the month and year his first male grandchild bearing the family name was born. That would be me.

In every place, there are symbols. Today on this stage at Grand Lodge, you will notice a chair. It is empty. Beside it, I have placed things that are symbols to every mason. An OSW, a Bahnson Manual, and all kinds of other symbolic items illustrate how when a brother dies, the work continues. Though the chair is empty, those of us who remain are challenged not to replace the chair, but to fill it.

For me, the chair on our stage has an added meaning. There is such a chair in Royal White Hart Lodge No. 2 in Halifax. It has a sheet thrown over it just like this one. People love to get that chair because it is comfortable. Without the sheet over the chair, it would be too much of an eyesore to remain in the lodge. However, when covered, it becomes presentable, usable, and desirable.

Today, we look at this empty chair and we remember those masons who have died during the course of the year. As we remember them, all kinds of

thoughts reverberate in our memory. Family members who are present with us today will remember happy times, perhaps in some chair at home. Lodge members will remember being seated after each degree and the sense of accomplishment and pride accompanying the completion of a degree or moving through the chairs with or among our fallen brothers.

Today, our brothers answer not our call. We no longer hear their voice. What we do hear are the cries of their family and friends for comfort, support, and reassurance.

Masonry is a symbol of such virtues.

Around this sacred altar, all of us pledged ourselves to these basic tenants. All of us promised never to remove our hand of support from one another. Our fallen brother's families have need of the strength and support that our symbolic lodges are more than capable of giving.

Can we do this? No one understands any better about charity and love than those who fill this auditorium this afternoon. We have proven it over and over again.

If we can allow ourselves to be the symbols of support and strength for the families of all our deceased clergy, we can make a difference in the world. Our symbols today are a reminder of all that has gone before us and all that is still waiting ahead.

There are two ways to view the chair. You may view it empty. You may view it ready to be filled. Our symbols make the difference.

Therefore, let us not weep and mourn as those who have no hope. Instead, let us remember that time, patience, and perseverance accomplishes all things. May the continuation of our outreach of brotherly love and affection to the families of our fallen brothers be a symbol of all that is good, true, and right about our fraternal spirit.

As you scan the list of those brethren who have joined the celestial lodge above where the Great Architect of the Universe presides, consider this. If masonry needs symbols, then what kind of symbol was our fallen brother? Better still, remember that our duty is not to be better than others, but to be better than ourselves. What kind of symbol are we?

Respectfully submitted,
A. Gene Cobb, Chairman



Robert N. Bass, Jr.

Grand Master 1968

Born: January 18, 1915 Died: September 25, 1999

Robert Norman Bass, Jr.

Eulogy delivered by J. Luigi Ammons

Robert Norman Bass, Jr., was one of the giants of the Masonic fraternity in our world today. His brilliant mind and gentle guiding hand has benefited many Masons over the past half century. With one look of his soft blue eyes, he could melt away the hardest obstacle he faced or radiate the sternest intent of any task that he was called upon to do. Bob, as he preferred his friends to call him, loved the Masonic fraternity and the brethren within the many lodges across this Grand Jurisdiction. He always had time to talk Masonry and loved it as much as he did his own family.

Robert Norman Bass, Jr. was born in Bluefield, West Virginia, on January 18, 1915. The second oldest of 15 children, born to Robert N. Bass, Sr. and Beatrice Eubanks Bass, his family moved to Wake County when he was 11 months old. Robert N. Bass, Sr., was the first automotive master mechanic in Raleigh, and Bob followed into the automotive business in his father's footsteps. He graduated from Garner High School and continued his education in the automotive field graduating from the Firestone Technical Institute in Akron, Ohio. He worked for the railroad for a short while and then set up Bob Bass Incorporated with a GMC dealership and later Jeep, that he owned and operated until 1990 when he sold the dealership to David O'Neal. Bob married the lovely Kathleen Holton of Pamlico County on June 17, 1938. They were blessed with four lovely daughters and two handsome sons, along with 17 grandchildren and 9 great grandchildren.

Bob Bass began his Masonic career on December 14, 1948 when he petitioned Millbrook Lodge No. 97. He was initiated an Entered Apprentice on January 25, 1949, passed to the Fellowship Degree on February 15, 1949 and was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason on March 1, 1949. He was appointed Junior Deacon of the lodge in 1949 and served as Master in 1953. He served as trustee of the lodge for many years and was voted a Life Member in 1970. He served as District Deputy Grand Master for the 23rd Masonic District in 1958, 1959, and 1960. He was appointed to the Grand Lodge of North Carolina as Grand Steward in April of 1961 by M. W. James W. Brewer. In 1968 at the 101st Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina, he was elected the 115th Grand Master of Masons in North Carolina. After serving as Grand Master, he continued to be active by serving on numerous boards and committees.

In the Scottish Rite, he served as the 43rd Wise Master of the John C. Drewry Chapter of Rose Croix in 1961, the 47th Venerable Master of the Carl A. Woodruff Lodge of Perfection, the 5th Commander of the Raleigh Council of Kadosh, and the 4th Master of Kadosh of the Raleigh Consistory. Brother Bass was elected to receive the rank and decoration of Knight Commander of the Court of Honour in 1961, and was Coroneted with the rank and decoration of Inspector General Honorary, 33°, in October of 1967. He served as Degree Master of the 5th degree for many years and took part in several other degrees.

Brother Bass was also very active in many other appendant Bodies of Freemasonry. He joined the York Rite in 1953 and served as Eminent Commander of Raleigh Commandery No. 4 Knights Templar in 1960. He was very active in the York rite and took part in many of the degrees. He was also a member of many invitational organizations, including the AMD, Knight Masons, Rosicrucians, and the Red Cross of Constantine. He continually encouraged and supported the youth organizations in our state. He and Kathleen were Charter Members of Millbrook Chapter No. 23, Order of the Eastern Star, where he served as Worthy Patron in 1958. He was very instrumental in The Bass Care Center at the Masonic and Eastern Star Home in Greensboro, which was named in his honor. He was created a Noble

of the Mystic Shrine in 1949, where he served as photographer for many years. His activities in the Shrine climaxed by holding the office of Potentate for both Sudan and Amran Temples. Brother Bass was also a member of several civic and charitable organizations.

It is hard to realize that only a year ago he stood here among us in this Grand Lodge listening intently to the issues at hand. Although he is now with his old friend Jimmy Brewer, his shadow is still with us today, in our thoughts, our minds, and our hearts. To those whom he loved, his beautiful wife, his children, grandchildren, and all the members of the craft, he leaves behind the legacy of a man who cared about others and his true attachment to Freemasonry. He lived his life by the lessons he learned through the Masonic Fraternity. He was a good friend and wise counselor to many of us here today, and his guidance and loyal devotion to the craft will long be remembered. Brother Bass's colorful life can be summed up as a humble man who did not add up his honors, but who went quietly from one completed task to another. He was a kind and thoughtful man who met his fellow beings on a common level and left a lasting impression on all who knew him. He will forever be missed in our fraternity by those who knew and loved him.



Reynold Slade Davenport

Grand Historian 1981-1998

Born: June 21, 1921 Died: March 31, 2000

Reynold Slade Davenport

The following eulogy, read by Grand Secretary T. Walton Clapp, III, is Reynold Davenport's final edition of "Something Else," the column he wrote for nearly 40 years for The Bagpipe, the publication of New Bern Scottish Rite Bodies. Over the last few years Davenport cast off each of his writing duties one by one — except for "Something Else." That he savored with the rest of us, until his death. The final column was written for the occasion. It is with the kind permission of Bagpipe Editor David Webb that we share that farewell here.

After almost forty years, this is absolutely the final installment of "Something Else." A little while back, I realized I would not abide much longer in this earthly realm, so I wrote this and left word for it to be mailed to *The Bagpipe* upon my demise, which occurred March 31, 2000. But you cannot assume this to be a voice from the tomb, as I have requested not to be buried. What will happen, if my wishes are carried out, any useable spare parts will be transplanted from my mortal remains to someone who needs them, and the remainder will then be turned over to a medical school for whatever use they may have for it. After the medical school has determined, if it can, what in the world made such a poorly maintained engine keep on running for so many years, I hope that whatever is left of me will be cremated and my ashes returned to members of my family for whatever disposition they may find convenient and environmentally friendly. I wouldn't want to mess up the atmosphere.

Now I do not have anything against undertakers. A number of my friends are or have been practitioners of the mournful art, and I wish them well. But it has long bugged me that so many people feel compelled to spend thousands of dollars to put a dead body into the ground. It is to me about the same as it would be to go to a great expense to ceremoniously dispose of a pecan hull. If everyone felt as I do about prestigious caskets and valuable real estate, undertakers could confine their plantings to petunias.

But it was not my purpose in this final hit to dwell upon the mechanics of my removal herefrom. Rather, I wish to say a little about how fortunate I have been and feel. So I wish no pity to be wasted upon me, I neither deserve it nor desire it. I hope my memorial service will be an occasion of thanksgiving for my life of good fortune, not a time of "tears and flapdoodle," as Huckleberry Finn put it. Good fortune? Count it up!

I have persisted in breathing well past my Biblically allotted three-score-and-ten. I was born to and raised by two parents who far exceeded every measurement for love and excellence. I grew up with two exceptional brothers. I have been married to an absolutely wonderful woman for over a half-century. Together we raised and still cherish as fine a son and as fine a daughter as ever blessed any household. If I had never possessed anything other than my truly great family, I would still have more than abundant cause to be thankful for my life. But there's more—much more.

My work has always been exceedingly interesting and challenging. I never earned a great deal of money, but enough. During virtually all my working life, I was trusted to manage my own time and that of many others. I was left to my own devices; making my own decisions and plotting my own course; with no real supervision, being held accountable for little other than the bottom line. That freedom of action in one's work is itself worth far more than can be easily measured. I was privileged to enter the army during World War II. Now I did not enjoy the army, not even a little bit, but I hate to envision my shame and embarrassment during the ensuing fifty-odd years if I had not volunteered for induction.

More than four decades of my life I have been actively involved as a member of the Masonic Fraternity. Masonry has been especially kind to me,

as it will be to all men that embrace it. It is an almost flawless organization, having been fine-tuned and polished by many great Masons over a succession of centuries. Though it demands worship of God by its members, it never undertakes to tell them how to worship Him or in what church, synagogue, temple, or cathedral; nor does it usurp or seek to usurp the prerogatives of any church or religion. So it has been a source of pain and wonderment to me, and to many others, that so many have sought through malice, or envy, or mostly ignorance, to destroy this great institution which has contributed so much to our glorious nation for more than two and a half centuries. But this will pass, as it has always passed in similar periods of mindless persecution over the years, and Masonry will emerge once more as a blessing to the nation. I hate I will not be here to see that.

I am exceedingly thankful for my friends. True friends are one of the greatest treasures available to mortal man, and I have been blessed with the many. I am so thankful that I have spent all my life a citizen of this great land. I could have been born far from these shores and thus might never have experienced life here. It has been a wonderful blessing. I could go on and on about my many blessings, for they are many, but it is time to stop. So I do not, at this writing fear death. It is a natural an inevitable process. Besides, if we believe in the promise of Christianity, what is there to fear? These brave words may fail me at the hour of reckoning, and I may expire in a sea of whining and self-pity. I hope not, for my long life of truly good fortune deserves a far better ending than any such maudlin exhibition as that. That's it for "Something Else."

Thank you, everyone, and God bless you all.



Charles Marshall Ingram
Grand Master Presiding

Report of The Grand Master

(Docket No. 40)

Most Worshipful Brother Charles M. Ingram, Grand Master of Masons in North Carolina, delivered the following report, which was referred to the Board of General Purposes (See also Docket No. 41 of these *Proceedings* for distribution of this report.)

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:
Brethren:

Regulation 13-2.5 of *The Code* of 1995, as amended, requires the Grand Master to present a written report on the first day of the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, setting forth all of his acts as Grand Master and the general condition of Masonry within this jurisdiction, and recommending such legislation and such action as he may deem necessary.

Similarly, Reg. 13-5 requires the Grand Master to report to the Grand Lodge all decisions and official opinions, with all papers relating thereto, rendered by him during its recess. Reg. 13-5.2 further authorizes the Grand Master to include such other subjects or matters as he may desire to submit.

After much thought and careful consideration, I have concluded that the information which I am required to report, and the other matters which I desire to share, can best be comprehended if arranged by focusing the first part on my official acts, including decisions and opinions, and by concentrating the second part on the general condition of Masonry within this jurisdiction, including subjects and matters which I consider to be related thereto.

Therefore, pursuant to the provisions of *The Code*, I am privileged and honored to submit the following Report:

Official Acts As Grand Master

Based on my experiences as a Master Mason, Master of my Lodge, District Deputy Grand Master, and Grand Lodge Officer, as I advanced through the Line, I made notes of some of the things that I had observed. In January 1999, in order to be prepared should I be elected Grand Master, I compiled those notes and developed them into a set of Goals and Objectives for my term. These Goals and Objectives will be discussed in greater detail hereinbelow.

I circulated the proposed Goals and Objectives among the Past Grand Masters, Grand Lodge Officers, District Deputy Grand Masters, and other brethren, requesting their comments and suggestions. These Goals and Objectives will be discussed in greater detail hereinbelow.

I also circulated a request for nominations, as well as a call for volunteers, for brethren to serve on the various Boards, Commissions and Committees, and in the other positions, that a Grand Master is required to appoint or nominate. As I recall, I spent approximately two weeks in January 1999 identifying the men who would be appointed District Deputy Grand Masters, and approximately three weeks in February 1999 identifying the men who would be appointed or nominated to the other positions. I took that responsibility very, very seriously, and devoted a great deal of time and effort to it. I am very proud of the fact that many of the most talented and best qualified members of the Craft agreed to serve, and I am confident that our beloved fraternity will greatly benefit from their service and contributions for many, many years to come.

I certainly do not seek to claim all of the credit for the Goals and

Objectives which were developed, nor for the appointments that were made, for I had the benefit of the recommendations and assistance of many people. There are too many to recognize them all individually, but I would like to take this opportunity to thank them as a group for all of the support and wise counsel that they gave me. I would be remiss, however, if I did not acknowledge the special assistance rendered by W. W. Calvin Gaddy, Recorder of Oasis Temple; R. W. William G. Mathis, Junior Grand Warden; James L. Medlin, Director of Development; and Ill. Sir John S. Miller, Jr., Past Potentate of Oasis Temple, for all of the recommendations and guidance which they provided.

Finally, the time for the 1999 Annual Communication arrived. As is the custom, on Friday afternoon, April 9, after we had gone from labor to refreshment, I met with the District Deputy Grand Masters to share with them some of my goals and plans for the coming year. I emphasized that my top five priorities would be Strategic Planning, Masonic Leadership Development, Masonic Education, Ritual Proficiency, and Financial Stability. I also explained that, due to the demands of my law practice and other obligations, and like my predecessor, M. W. Thomas W. Gregory, I would not be able to conduct a series of 30-32 District Meetings across the state, but rather that I planned to hold 13 Area Meetings at sites conveniently located for the brethren.

I feel compelled to say at this point that it was very embarrassing, and I found it extremely uncomfortable, to be required to meet with the DDGMs prior to my election as Grand Master. In this same vein, I had been made aware that several brethren who unsuccessfully had sought appointment to certain positions, were upset by not being selected, and that they and their friends intended to exact retribution by voting against me at the Annual Communication. For these reasons, I came to the conclusion, which I hold very strongly, that a Grand Master-Elect needs some period of time after his election, and before his Installation, in which to finalize his appointments and plans for his term. This recommendation will be discussed in greater detail hereinbelow.

On Saturday, April 10, at the appointed hour of eleven o'clock, to my great relief and elation I was elected the 146th Grand Master of Masons in North Carolina for the year 1999-2000. The Credentials Committee had reported that the following members of the Grand Lodge had registered: Masters, Wardens and Proxies, 973; Grand Lodge Officers, 15; Past Grand Masters, 16; members of Boards, Commissions and Committees, 46; District Deputy Grand Masters, 42; and District Deputy Grand Lecturers, 33, for a total of 1,125. Of those, 1,034 voted for the office of Grand Master, of which 689 were necessary for the required two-thirds vote. I received 770 votes, and 264 members voted for others. Although I am eternally grateful for each and every vote that I received, it has continued to disturb me that I failed to receive the support, confidence and trust of 264 of my brethren. However, the issue of the recognition of Prince Hall Masonry which we faced last year was a controversial and divisive matter. For that and other reasons, no doubt these men were casting a "protest vote," which was not directed at me personally, since many of them did not even know me.

In the remarks that I made in accepting election to the Office of Grand Master, I stated that—after the controversy that we had endured—I wanted my year to be a time to heal. I also stated that I had learned that a leader must listen and that a leader must serve. I also acknowledged that one Grand Master by himself can accomplish very little in only one year, and that if we want to improve our fraternity, it is imperative that we—*together*—must develop a consensus of what needs to be done. I further stated that I knew that if I wanted to make any lasting contribution to our beloved fraternity, I must strive to develop continuity among my fellow

officers. Last, I said that we must get our beloved fraternity back on course; that we must restore morality in Freemasonry; that we should remember that we all have taken obligations which we should honor; and that we should practice Freemasonry by demonstrating its beautiful principles and tenets in our daily lives. I pledged to do all of those things, and I would like to think that I have been successful.

Criteria for Selection

In selecting the men who I would appoint or nominate to serve, I adopted the following self-imposed criteria:

1. I wanted to limit the number of Past Grand Masters serving on Boards, Commissions and Committees, not out of any lack of respect or appreciation for them, but in order to make room for other brethren who had not been so honored by the fraternity. To take advantage of the experience and wisdom of our Past Grand Masters, I established a Past Grand Masters Advisory Council.
2. I wanted to avoid reappointing anyone who had served six years or two terms in any position, again, not out of any lack of respect or appreciation for them, but in order to make room for other brethren who had not served previously. There is a wealth of talent in our fraternity, and we need to get more of these men involved.
3. I also wanted to try to appoint younger men, not out of any lack of respect or appreciation for our older brethren, but in order to try to involve the next generation of leadership in our fraternity.

Appointive Officers

Following my election, I made the following appointments:

Senior Grand Deacon	Judge Jerry Reginald Tillett
Junior Grand Deacon	Dr. Charles Albert Lewis, Jr.
Grand Marshal	Leonard Yearby Safrit, Jr.
Senior Grand Steward	Graham Wiles Pervier
Junior Grand Steward	Gene Tart Jernigan
Grand Tyler	Kenneth Patrick Bell
Grand Chaplain	W. Rev. Dr. James H. Bailey
Grand Historian	Judge Clarence E. Horton, Jr.
Grand Lecturer	Danial M. Hogue, Jr., C.L.
Grand Orator	Judge Lacy H. Thornburg
Judge Advocate	W. Ronnie Stewart
Grand Organist	W. D. Windell Cunningham
Grand Archivist	Brian Dean Edwards, M.A.
Grand Librarian	Theophilus Walton Clapp, III
Grand Poet Laureate	Dr. W. Dallas Herring
Assistant Grand Chaplain	Rabbi and Dr. James L. Apple
Assistant Grand Chaplain	W. Rev. David Cash
Assistant Grand Chaplain	W. Rev. A. Gene Cobb, Jr.
Assistant Grand Chaplain	W. Rev. Victor S. Dowd
Assistant Grand Orator	Maj. Gen. Thomas L. Wilkerson
Assistant Grand Orator	Dr. H. Martin Lancaster
Assistant Grand Archivist	W. Frank D. Gatton, M.A.
Grand Prior	William Kenneth McArthur
Grand Chancellor	Hon. David N. Henderson
Grand Minister of State	Hon. H. Martin Lancaster
Grand Almoner	W. Cecil E. Bowden
Grand Chief of Protocol	Maj. Gen. H. Lloyd Wilkerson
Grand Master of Ceremonies	W. Robert A. Schafer
Grand Chamberlain	W. W. C. Morrisette

Grand Equerry	Dr. Richard M. Ripley
Grand Standard Bearer	W. James F. Strickland, Jr.
Grand Sword Bearer	W. Harvey C. Allen
Grand Crucifer	W. Gerald Ringler
Grand Prelate	W. Rev. Harry W. Crump
Grand Prefect	W. A. Gene Cobb, Jr.
Grand Herald	W. Ralph F. Messer
Grand Sentinel	W. Cohen S. Matthews
Grand Surgeon General	Dr. Corbett L. Quinn
Assistant Gr. Surg. General	Dr. James M. Galloway
Assistant Gr. Surg. General	Dr. Joseph L. Robertson, Jr.
Assistant Gr. Surg. General	Dr. Russell A. Flint
Assistant Gr. Surg. General	Dr. Ricardo M. Tan
Assistant Gr. Surg. General	Dr. Hubert H. Warren, Jr.
Grand Armorer	W. James Hay
Grand Parliamentarian	Judge Jimmy L. Myers
Grand Commissary	Joseph C. Knox, Jr.
Grand Pursuivant	Lt. Col. Wilson M. Autry
Grand Chevalier	W. Theodore R. Brinson

I would like to thank all of these brethren for serving in these capacities during my term as Grand Master.

Again, there is an absolute wealth of talent in our fraternity, and we need to get more men involved. I recommend that Reg. 11-1 and Chapter 17 of *The Code* of 1995 be amended, to add these positions as appointive offices, and that such appointments be made each year.

A Time to Heal

I have been deeply disturbed by the apparent feeling of mistrust of Grand Lodge and the Grand Lodge Officers by some of our members. That is readily apparent from some of the comments that are made, and also from several of the votes at the 1999 Annual Communication, and before. I have sensed that—to a certain degree—there is an *us against them* attitude among some members of the Craft, and I have endeavored to do everything within my power to dispel it.

As I mentioned in my remarks at the Annual Communication, there was a great deal of controversy in 1998-1999, and I wanted my year to be a *time to heal*. I planned to do a lot of listening, in order to ascertain what was on the minds of our members, and then to try to respond as appropriate.

District Meetings

I have stated on numerous occasions that I wanted to enhance the office of District Deputy Grand Master, and I felt that allowing them to conduct their own District Meetings would help to accomplish that. To that end, I asked the DDGMs to schedule and hold their District Meetings between May 15 and June 15. They were free to schedule their District Meetings on the dates and at the locations that they deemed most suitable for their respective Districts.

I was greatly disappointed to learn that some of the DDGMs did not hold District Meetings as requested. However, I was very pleased to know that the vast majority of the DDGMs conducted very successful District Meetings, which a large number of brethren attended, and at which a great deal of material and information was disseminated to the Craft.

Area Meetings

As mentioned above, for a number of reasons I was not able to hold 30-32 District Meetings. Also, during my Masonic career, I have attended many

District Meetings, at a number of which there has been—in my opinion—inadequate attendance. I felt that a series of Area Meetings would be a more efficient and wise use of the funds entrusted to the Grand Lodge by the brethren in the form of their per capita dues.

The Area Meetings were planned to begin in New Bern on June 17th, and to conclude in Asheville on September 9th. A schedule was made available well in advance, and was distributed by the Grand Secretary, and also was published in *The North Carolina Mason*.

Each District was assigned to a specific Area Meeting. There was a host District, a host DDGM, and a host Lodge, for each Area Meeting. The host Lodges were authorized to make the necessary arrangements for the meals in the manner in which they were accustomed in their area, or as they deemed most appropriate. The meal was served at 6:30 P.M., and the program began at 7:30 P.M.

Attendance by the officers of the subordinate Lodges was required. The primary purpose of the Area Meetings was to enable the leadership and the membership to work together and plan activities for the benefit of our beloved fraternity. When the Lodge Officers are not present, that is not possible, and all of our members suffer.

In most cases, we did not open the Lodge. However, the host Lodge was permitted to have the Tyler receive the pass from the brethren as they entered the Lodge room. Although I wanted to be present when the meeting began—in the interest of time and efficiency—so that we would have as much time as possible to discuss the issues of concern to our fraternity, I agreed to accommodate those Lodges that desired to receive the Grand Master officially.

During the first portion of the meeting, I listened to the concerns of the brethren. I wanted to allow them an opportunity to ask any questions that they may have, either with regard to the Grand Lodge or to anything else of concern to them. During the last portion, I made my comments and shared my thoughts with the brethren.

All of my Area Meetings were well attended. In nearly every case, the host Lodge was filled to capacity.

I scheduled and held the following Area Meetings:

June 17, 1999	Districts 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 11 Berne No. 724, New Bern
June 24, 1999	Districts 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 31, 32 and 33 Hiram No. 40, Masonic Temple, Raleigh
July 1, 1999	District 12 St. John's No. 13, Kenansville
July 13, 1999	Districts 63, 64 and 65 Dillsboro No. 459, Sylva
July 15, 1999	Districts 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 54, 55 and 56 Phalanx No. 31, Scottish Rite Temple, Charlotte
July 29, 1999	Districts 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 and 21 Corinthian No. 230, Rocky Mount
August 4, 1999	Districts 1, 2 and 3 Unanimity No. 7, Edenton
August 16, 1999	Districts 9, 10 and 13 Orient No. 395, Wilmington
August 19, 1999	Districts 14, 15, 27, 28, 29 and 30 John Huske Anderson No. 731, Masonic Center, Fayetteville
August 26, 1999	Districts 34, 35, 36, 37, 44, 45, 47 and 48 Corinthian No. 656, Masonic Temple, Greensboro

September 8, 1999 Districts 46, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 57 and 58
Hickory No. 343, Masonic Center, Hickory

September 9, 1999 Districts 59, 60, 61 and 62
John A. Nichols No. 650, Masonic Temple, Asheville

I was greatly disappointed that several of the DDGMs—the personal representatives of the Grand Master in their respective Districts— did not attend my Area Meetings. However, the vast majority of the DDGMs did attend, and I greatly appreciate the dedication and loyalty of those who did.

I also was greatly disappointed that many of the DDGLs did not attend the Area Meetings. However, I greatly appreciate the commitment of those who did.

I would like to thank each of the Lodges which hosted our Area Meetings. Brethren, we could not do it without you. Thank you for sharing your facilities with us.

Masonic Service Association Hospital Visitation Program

The Masonic Service Association, of which our Grand Lodge is a member, sponsors a wonderful Hospital Visitation Program at each of the Veterans Administration Medical Centers in North Carolina.

I was born on the 4th of July, and have served nearly 30 years in the Navy and Naval Reserve. I consider myself to be extremely patriotic, and I have a very special place in my heart for our nation's military veterans. They are the ones who answered the call, often placing their own lives at risk, and often paying the supreme sacrifice, to defend the freedoms which so many of us take for granted every day. I feel very strongly about the great debt of gratitude that we owe to each of them, and their families, not the least of which is to show our appreciation and to try to minister to their needs. I set a goal for my term as Grand Master to visit each of the Veterans Hospitals, now called Veterans Affairs Medical Centers (VAMC), in North Carolina, and meet our brethren who are patients there.

On the afternoon of July 16, 1999, following my Area Meeting in Charlotte the night before, and accompanied by W. Brother Walter Klein, of Charlotte, I visited the VAMC in Salisbury. We were met by W. Dewey R. Preslar, Jr., District Deputy Grand Master for the 44th Masonic District, and Brothers Richard Arey, David Carmichael, William F. Meacham, PDDGM, William E. Myers, John Wagoner, Bennie Williams, and Michael J. Wolfe. I greatly appreciate these brothers for taking the time out of their busy schedules to meet and accompany me on this visit.

The MSA Representative is Brother Wiley G. Morgan, who has been serving in this capacity for 36 years. Brother Morgan serves alone, and, while this definitely is a labor of love, he could use some assistance.

While there, we met and visited with Brother John Ellison Morgan, a member of Stanly Lodge No. 348, in Albemarle. Brother Morgan served in PT boats in the Pacific during World War II. His wife is a resident of the Lutheran Nursing Home in Albemarle, and is not able to get to see him. However, Brother Alan Burris, Secretary of Stanly No. 348, has assured me that she is doing fine, and that she is not in need of anything.

We also met and visited with Brother Robert L. ("Bob") Ryan, a member of King Solomon Lodge No. 704, in Gastonia. Brother Ryan is retired from the U. S. Air Force, and obviously takes great pride in his Masonic membership, and his service as Master and Secretary of his Lodge. His wife, Mrs. Willa H. Ryan, was visiting with him the day that we were there, and told us that she travels from Gastonia to Salisbury, and back home, every other day, in order to visit him. She later wrote to me, to report that Brother

Ryan's spirits were buoyed by our visit. W. J. Thomas McSwain, Secretary of King Solomon No. 704, has assured me that the Lodge will do everything that it can to assist Brother Ryan and his wife. Thank you, brethren.

On the afternoon of August 19, 1999, prior to my Area Meeting in Fayetteville, I visited the VAMC there. I was accompanied by W. James F. Strickland, Jr., and W. H. C. Allen, both Past Masters of Warsaw No. 677, in Warsaw, and two of my personal heroes. We were met by W. E. Faison Williams, District Deputy Grand Master, and W. Floyd ("Butch") Trimmer, District Deputy Grand Lecturer, for the 29th Masonic District. Other brethren who joined us included Worshipful Brothers Louis O. Dean, PDDGM-29, Andrew Drenkhahn, Jack Forbes, James Hay, and Greg Scott, and Brothers Larry G. Hall, Joe Harris, Sammie D. McMinn, and Billy E. Strickland. We were especially honored to be accompanied also by Most Worshipful L. R. ("Pete") Thomas, Jr., the Representative of our Grand Lodge to the Masonic Service Association, who traveled a great distance from his home in New Bern to join us.

The MSA Representative is Brother Edward N. Meeks. Brother Meeks is ably assisted by Brothers John F. Lynch, Dan Zaha, Tom Thornton, John R. DeLay, and Bill Ivey. I have never met a more dedicated group of men. Brother Meeks has accumulated a total of over 8,000 hours of volunteer service, and Brother Lynch has accumulated a total of over 6,000. Their efforts are not limited to the VAMC, but extend to other hospitals and nursing homes in the area. Brothers DeLay and Zaha are nearing the 3,000 hour mark. We owe a great debt of gratitude to these brethren for everything that they do for our fraternity. A great big THANK YOU, brethren!

While there, we met and visited with several brethren who are patients. Sadly, most of them are not capable of understanding who we were. Those who did, however, were greatly pleased by a visit from their Grand Master and brethren. One of the absolute highlights of our visit was meeting and talking with Brother Klearchos ("Cleo") Katsoudas, a Greek immigrant and proud American who is well-known and loved from his many years in the restaurant business in Fayetteville.

On the afternoon of September 9, 1999, prior to my Area Meeting in Asheville, I visited the VAMC there. I was accompanied by W. Ralph F. Messer, PDDGM-63. We were met by W. John M. Burchfield, District Deputy Grand Master for the 61st Masonic District. Other brethren who joined us included Worshipful Brothers Carroll Melton, Colon Pake, Charles Reese, and DeWitt Stamey. We were honored to have M. W. Ray Norris, Past Grand Master, accompany us also.

We greatly enjoyed our visits with these brethren, and received a great blessing from each of them.

Although I have not scheduled it yet, I plan to visit the VAMC in Durham before my term ends. The MSA Representative there is Brother Jack T. Dossett.

Lodge and District Visitations

Rather than poorly attended District Meetings as mentioned above, I felt that it would be a wiser use of Grand Lodge resources for me to focus my time and attention on as many individual Lodges as possible. I received a great number of invitations, and I do not recall that I ever declined one except when I had an unavoidable conflict.

I made the following visits:

April 26, 1999 1st District Visitation, Elizabeth City Shrine Club, Camden
 May 17, 1999 150th Anniversary, Mount Lebanon No. 117, Wilson
 June 26, 1999 Presentation of 75-Year Award to
 Bro. Richard Tarkington, Charity No. 5, Windsor

July 6, 1999	Awards Night, Palmyra No. 147, Dunn
August 28, 1999	Presentation of 50-Year Award to PGM William Henry Simpson, Stokesdale No. 428, Stokesdale
September 27, 1999	9 th District Meeting, Seaside No. 429, Swansboro
September 30, 1999	Lodge Building Re-Dedication Ceremony, Southern Pines No. 484, Southern Pines
October 12, 1999	Warsaw No. 677, Warsaw
October 16, 1999	Reidsville No. 384, Third Degrees by Virginia Team and N. C. State Highway Patrol Degree Team, Reidsville
October 23, 1999	Ladies Night and Awards Night, Gatesville, No. 126, Gatesville
October 26, 1999	Ladies Night and Awards Night, Providence No. 678, Columbia
November 2, 1999	14 th District Meeting, St. Alban's No. 114, Lumberton
November 5, 1999	Awards Night, Joppa No. 530, Charlotte
November 12, 1999	Ladies Night and Awards Night, Sanford No. 151, Sanford
November 13, 1999	Ladies Night, Mingo No. 206, Spivey's Corner
November 15, 1999	Ladies Night, Home No. 613, Fremont
November 18, 1999	Ladies Night and Awards Night, Roseboro No. 585, Roseboro
November 23, 1999	9 th District Meeting, Stump Sound No. 733, Sneads Ferry
November 29, 1999 ..	12 th District Meeting, Beulaville No. 658, Beulaville
November 30, 1999	Third Degree by N. C. State Highway Patrol Degree Team, Cary No. 198, Cary
December 10, 1999	Ladies Night, Fellowship No. 687, Durham
December 15, 1999	Installation of Officers, St. Patrick's No. 617, Princeton
December 27, 1999	Installation of Officers, Black Mountain No. 663, Black Mountain
December 28, 1999	Joint Installation of Officers, Western Star No. 91 and Spindale No. 673, Rutherfordton
December 29, 1999	Installation of Officers, Vance No. 293, Weaverville
January 5, 2000	Triple Installation of Officers, Greenville No. 284, Crown Point No. 708, William Pitt No. 734, Masonic Center, Greenville
January 6, 2000	Installation of Officers and Open House, St. John's No. 13, Kenansville
February 1, 2000	Sudan Potentate Hugh Hardee Night, Grimesland No. 475, Grimesland
February 16, 2000	Guest Speaker on Craft Masonry, 23 rd District Open House, Zebulon Shrine Club, Zebulon
February 22, 2000	Awards Night, Concord No. 58, Tarboro
March 4, 2000	Ground-Breaking Ceremony for new Lodge building, Stedman No. 730, Stedman
March 4, 2000	Past Masters Night, Wendell No. 565, Wendell
March 11, 2000	Family Night supper, Masters No. 754, Raleigh
March 13, 2000	Goldsboro No. 634, Goldsboro
March 16, 2000	Zion No. 81, Trenton
March 23, 2000	Farmville No. 517, Farmville
March 25, 2000	Ladies Night and 100 th Anniversary, Raleigh No. 500, Raleigh

March 27, 2000 St. John's No. 4, Kinston
 March 28, 2000 Federal Point No. 753, Carolina Beach
 April 4, 2000 Third Degree by N. C. State
 Highway Patrol Degree Team, Fellowship No. 84, Smithfield

Additionally, I plan to visit a number of other Lodges between the date on which this Report is completed, and the date of the Annual Communication.

I was scheduled to attend Ladies Night and Awards Night at Catawba Valley No. 217 in Morganton, on October 16, 1999, but unfortunately my visit had to be cancelled. I had traveled as far as Winston-Salem, when I was forced to turn around and return home due to the impending landfall of Hurricane Floyd in my community, which later caused such widespread devastation in eastern North Carolina. I greatly appreciate W. Thomas A. ("Andy") Brandon, the Master, for being so understanding, and for filling in for me on very short notice.

I scheduled a 44th District Meeting at Andrew Jackson No. 576, in Salisbury, for January 27, 2000, but unfortunately I was unable to attend, as I was sick at home in bed with the flu. I greatly appreciate Senior Grand Warden William L. Mills, III, filling in for me on very short notice.

I was invited to attend the ground-breaking ceremonies for the new facilities of Temple Lodge No. 676 in Charlotte on March 18, 2000. I greatly enjoy such events, and would have loved to be there. However, due to a prior commitment, I was not able to attend. Again, I greatly appreciate Deputy Grand Master Charles E. Cathey filling in for me on that occasion.

I would like to point out that many of the invitations which I received were issued upon short notice, sometimes as little as one week in advance. When possible, I accommodated the brethren, and accepted the invitations. However, our Lodges would be well-advised to plan their events well in advance, and to issue the invitations to those who they genuinely desire to attend, also well in advance. The Grand Master has an extremely busy schedule, and should not be invited merely as an afterthought, if you truly do want him to attend. Not only does that provide greater promise of obtaining the desired guests, but it also would enable the Lodges to publicize their events so that other interested brethren might attend.

On many of our visits, my wife, Carolyn, and I were presented very lovely gifts or mementoes. I would be very remiss if I did not mention some of them here.

Last April, at our Annual Communication, Bro. Buster Babb from South Carolina presented me with two beautiful handmade wooden gavels—one for my year as Master of my Lodge, and one for my year as Grand Master—and a hand-carved wooden trowel. Palmyra No. 147 in Dunn presented me with a copy of the history of their Lodge, as did Concord No. 58 in Tarboro and Wendell No. 565 in Wendell.

When we visited Providence No. 678 for their Ladies Night and Awards Night, the Lodge presented me a beautiful framed copper plaque, on which had been embossed the Square and Compasses and my name, title and year of service. W. Dossie Bunn, 32°, K. C. C. H., of Wilmington gave me a beautiful gavel, made of a variety of woods and colors, which he had carved for me, and on which he had engraved my name and title. Roseboro No. 585 presented us a beautiful hand-made quilt, which we have used quite a bit.

When we arrived early for our visit in Gatesville in October, W. Delton Eure and his lovely wife, Flossie, graciously invited us into their beautiful home. Sister Flossie entertained Carolyn, while Brother Delton gave me a wonderful tour of their Lodge and the Gatesville community, even showing me the birthplace of Bro. Thad Eure, longtime Secretary of State of North

Carolina. Bro. Delton accompanied me to the home of Bro. Marne Godwin, where, in the presence of his family, I presented his 50-Year Award. Bro. Delton also gave me a beautiful hand-crafted walking cane, decorated with Masonic symbols, which he had made especially for me.

Goldsboro No. 634 presented me with an Honorary Membership in their Lodge. From my reading of the history of our Grand Lodge, I know that years ago, it was not uncommon for Lodges to award Honorary Membership to Grand Masters and other well-known Masons. However, this practice seems to have fallen into disuse in recent times. This was my first Honorary Membership, and I will cherish it always.

Black Mountain No. 663 presented me with a beautiful Resolution of Appreciation. The words are very inspiring, and will always serve to remind me of my visit to their Lodge and the warmth with which Carolyn and I, and her family, were received. They also presented me with a book on military prisons during the Civil War. I have not had the time to read it this year, but I look forward to the opportunity to do so. W. C. Richard ("Rick") Patton, the Secretary, gave me a book on the history of the North Fork of the Swannanoa River, in eastern Buncombe County, whose earliest settlers included members of the Ingram family, perhaps distant cousins of mine.

Western Star No. 91 also presented me with an Honorary Membership in their Lodge. My visit there was my first joint Installation of Officers, and it was quite an interesting experience. Carolyn and I greatly enjoyed our visit to Rutherfordton, where she lived from 1973-1975 while serving as Law Clerk for Chief Judge Woodrow W. Jones, of the U. S. District Court for the Western District of North Carolina. Worshipful Brother Kolen Flack is an old and dear friend of hers, and now mine, and we enjoyed very much the opportunity to visit with him.

Vance No. 293, in Weaverville, is very special to me. It was named in honor of Brigadier General Robert Brank Vance, who was Grand Master from 1868-1870. The Vance family is one of the oldest and most prominent in the Weaverville area of Buncombe County. Gen. Vance's brother, Zebulon Baird Vance—also a Mason—was North Carolina's Civil War Governor, and later U. S. Senator, and is my number one hero because of his honesty, his integrity and his love for our State and its people. The Lodge presented me with a bronze commemorative medallion, with my name and the date of my visit engraved thereon.

Brother Joe Vale and his wife, Genie, presented us with one of the Harry S. Truman statues by Dr. Tom Clark. President and Brother Truman is shown wearing his apron and jewel as Grand Master of Masons in the State of Missouri. It is very impressive, and we have placed it (along with my *Hiram* gnome) where everyone who visits can see it.

Carolyn and I have thoroughly enjoyed each and every one of these visits. We greatly appreciate each and every one of the gifts and other mementoes that we were given. We have them displayed prominently in our home, and they will serve as a constant reminder to us for the rest of our lives of each of the visits that we made. We met many wonderful brethren and their ladies, who now are very dear and cherished friends, and who will remain in our hearts and memories forever.

Other Visitations and Events

In addition to my visits to Lodges and Districts, I attended many special events on official visits, as follows:

May 23, 1999..... Presentation of 75-Year Award to
Bro. William Henry Mason, Pamlico County Shrine Club, Grantsboro
June 2, 1999..... Reception honoring Masonic Legislators, Raleigh
June 11, 1999..... Annual Meeting, Rosicrucians, Raleigh

- June 15, 1999..... Greetings from the Grand Lodge,
Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, Greensboro
- June 16, 1999..... Installation of Officers, Grand Chapter,
Order of the Eastern Star, Greensboro
- June 22, 1999..... Installation of Officers, National Sojourners,
North Carolina Chapter No. 97, Fayetteville
- June 24, 1999..... Visit by Special Olympics Teams from Croatia
and Singapore to Masonic Home for Children, Oxford
- June 26, 1999..... St. John's Day, Masonic Home for Children, Oxford
- June 28, 1999..... Greetings from the Grand Lodge, Annual Assembly,
Order of the Rainbow for Girls, Raleigh
- July 12, 1999 Keynote Address, York Rite Summer Assembly,
Maggie Valley
- July 18, 1999 Awards Day, Order of DeMolay for Boys,
Masonic Temple, Greensboro
- July 27, 1999 Guest Speaker, Rotary Club, New Bern
- August 28, 1999..... Commemoration of the 100th Anniversary
of the Masonic Ceremony of the Laying of the Cornerstone
of the Iredell County Court House, Statesville
- September 21, 1999..... Certified Lecturers Examination, Hiram No. 98, Clinton
- September 25, 1999 Visit of Bro. Clyde Hayes family
and friends to Masonic Home for Children, Oxford
- September 25, 1999 Presentation of Portrait of Grand Master
to St. John's No. 13, Kenansville
- September 28, 1999 Masonic Student Assistance Program,
Masonic Home for Children, Oxford
- October 9, 1999..... Red and White Banquet,
A.° & A.° S.° R.°, Wilmington
- October 28, 1999 Greetings from the Grand Lodge,
Annual Assembly, Order of the Amaranth, Fayetteville
- November 13, 1999 Dedication of new Care and Wellness Center,
Masonic and Eastern Star Home, Greensboro
- November 19, 1999 Grand Lodge Officers' Planning Retreat,
Masonic Home for Children, Oxford
- December 4, 1999 K.° C.° C.° H.° Conferral, Masonic Temple, Raleigh
- December 6, 1999 *Campus Tracks* Awards Dinner, Raleigh
- December 17, 1999..... Awards Banquet, Shrine Bowl Game, Charlotte
- December 18, 1999..... Shrine Bowl Parade and Game, Charlotte
- January 8, 2000..... Millbrook Tax Conference, Millbrook No. 97, Raleigh
- January 8, 2000..... Guest Speaker at a Dinner honoring
David G. Cronk, Grand Commander,
Grand Commandery of North Carolina, Knights Templar
- January 15, 2000 Installation of Officers, Oasis Temple, Charlotte
- January 22, 2000 Installation of Officers, Sudan Temple, New Bern
- February 7, 2000..... Keynote Address, Blue Lodge Night,
National Sojourners, Camp Lejeune Chapter No. 239, Jacksonville
- February 11, 2000 Guest Speaker at a Dinner honoring
Joseph J. Vale, Most Eminent Grand Master,
Grand Council of North Carolina, Royal and Select Masters,
Oasis Temple, Charlotte
- February 19, 2000 Winter Masonic Education Seminar,
Masonic Temple, New Bern

February 25, 2000	Joint Board Planning Retreat, Masonic Home for Children, Masonic and Eastern Star Home, North Carolina Masonic Foundation, Atlantic Beach
March 18, 2000	Scottish Rite Reunion, Wilmington
March 25, 2000	DDGM/DDGL Leadership Workshop, Oxford
April 8, 2000	Dedication of Portrait of Brother Clyde Hayes at Masonic Home for Children, Oxford

Again, time and space simply will not permit me to discuss all of these events. However, I would like to remark on them in general.

It always is a great honor to be permitted to present awards to our brethren, but a 75-Year Award is very, very special. I thoroughly enjoyed meeting these brethren, and both of them were a great inspiration to me. This year, I have tried to emphasize the *Masonic family*, by which I mean all of the Masonic and appendant bodies, and related organizations. I was pleased to be able to attend official functions of the Scottish Rite, York Rite, Eastern Star, Amaranth, Rainbow Girls, DeMolay, Oasis and Sudan Shrine Temples, and National Sojourners. I deeply regret that conflicts prevented me from attending activities of Job's Daughters and other activities of the DeMolay.

I also was scheduled to attend the Grand York Rite Bodies Annual Meeting in Charlotte, on March 18-21, 2000. I deeply regret that, due to the press of other obligations, I was forced to cancel my plans. I greatly appreciate Deputy Grand Master Charles E. Cathey representing me on that occasion.

Meetings of Boards, Commissions and Committees

Throughout my term, I also have maintained a very busy schedule of meetings with our Boards, Commissions and Committees, including the Boards of Directors of our two Homes.

Out-of-State Visitations

On Friday evening, July 2, 1999, Carolyn and I traveled to Raleigh, where we met Sudan Temple Chief Rabban Hugh T. Hardee and his lady, Shirley, and Ill. Sir Edward T. Hartsell, a Past Potentate of Sudan, and his lady, Pearl, for our trip to the Imperial Shrine Session in Dallas, Texas. As is traditional, Carolyn and I were the invited guests of the three Shrine Temples in North Carolina. We flew out of Raleigh-Durham, with the usual layover in Atlanta. By the time we arrived in Dallas a few hours later, we felt as if we had known these new friends all of our lives.

Ill. Sir J. Eley Newsome, Potentate of Sudan Temple, assigned to Carolyn and me one of his personal aides, Bro. Bob Bryan, of Gates County. Bro. Bob and his wife, Helen, took Carolyn and me under their wings, ensuring that we were where we were supposed to be when we were supposed to be there. With all of the kindness that Bro. Bob and Sister Helen showed us, we gained two new dear friends who we will cherish forever.

On Sunday evening, July 4th, brethren from Oasis and Sudan Temples hosted Carolyn and me at a dinner honoring the Grand Master. Imagine my great surprise when—after dinner—they brought out a beautiful birthday cake, decorated in red, white and blue—my favorite colors. I never did find out how they knew that it was my birthday. Carolyn and I have never been treated more warmly. It was a wonderful trip, and one which we will never forget.

Later in July, accompanied by Junior Grand Warden Bill Mathis and his wife, DeVonna, Carolyn and I drove to Toronto, Ontario, Canada, for the

Grand Lodge Annual Communication there. We were treated most hospitably, and we really enjoyed the color and the pageantry. As one would expect from a member of the British Commonwealth, our brethren to the north really know how to put on a show. We greatly enjoyed the trip.

I do not favor the continued membership of our Grand Lodge in the Southeastern Masonic Conference. My experience with past meetings has been that the sessions generally are not worth the time and expense required to attend. Therefore, I asked that no money be appropriated for its annual meeting in Florida in August 1999. Dr. Charles A. Lewis, Jr., our Junior Grand Deacon, and his wife, Helga, planned to attend at their own expense, and I felt that it might not be a bad idea for our Grand Lodge at least to be represented, so I authorized reimbursement for his lodging and meals. The sessions were more productive than usual, and Bro. Charlie brought back some good material and information, particularly on Grand Lodge insurance programs.

On October 3, 1999, Carolyn and I joined many other Scottish Rite Masons from North Carolina in attending the Biennial Session of the Supreme Council, Southern Jurisdiction, in Washington, DC. I represented our Grand Lodge, and was formally received, introduced and recognized as Grand Master. We attended a very moving and impressive Vesper Service in St. John's Church, across the street from the White House. Two of the highlights for me were getting to meet Ill. Carl Sanders, 33°, G. C. C., retired Bishop of the United Methodist Church and Grand Chaplain of the Southern Jurisdiction, who was born in North Carolina, and Ill. William G. Sizemore, 33°, G. C. C., a Retired Navy Rear Admiral and Grand Executive Director of the Southern Jurisdiction. Carolyn especially enjoyed meeting Brother Michael A. Richards, K. C. C. H., an actor who plays the character "Kramer" on the television series *Seinfeld*. We also had an opportunity to visit with Brother David Sentelle, 33°, G. C. C., from Charlotte, who serves as the Chief Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, and who is an old friend of Carolyn's.

I deeply regret that I was not able to attend the 33° Conferral in Columbia, South Carolina, on October 30, 1999. Again, however, the demands of other responsibilities prevented me from attending. However, North Carolina was well represented by the many brethren who did attend.

I have never attended a meeting of the Conference of Grand Masters of Masons in North America. Last year, when it was in Hawaii, I felt that it would involve too much expense for the Grand Lodge, and I preferred to spend those limited resources on things that would benefit our fraternity here at home. I was eagerly anticipating this year's Conference in Savannah, Georgia on February 19-23. However, once again, the press of other matters precluded my attendance. I greatly appreciate Deputy Grand Master Charles E. Cathey attending and representing me on this occasion.

The one visit to an out-of-state Grand Lodge that I really wanted to attend was the Grand Lodge of Tennessee, in Nashville, March 28-29, 2000. Many of our brethren may not realize it, but what is now the State of Tennessee once was a part of the State of North Carolina, prior to being ceded to the Federal Government after American Independence. Our Grand Lodge chartered several Lodges in what is now Tennessee, and for a while we were known as the Grand Lodge of North Carolina and Tennessee, until we chartered their Grand Lodge in 1813. Because of that historical relationship, I feel a special kinship to our brethren in the Volunteer State. Once again, though, I was unable to attend due to the press of Masonic matters here at home.

Emergent Communications

My very first official act after being elected and installed as Grand

Master was to preside at an Emergent Communication of the Grand Lodge on the occasion of the Dedication of the new Lodge building for Friendship No. 388, in Boiling Springs, on May 15, 1999. It is a beautiful facility, and obviously was well planned. It is a wonderful addition to this pleasant little college town, and the brethren have every right to be proud of this Lodge. This building is the first one in which my name appears on the Cornerstone as Grand Master, and will always be very special to me.

On November 5, 1999, an Emergent Communication of the Grand Lodge was held in the historic Hezekiah Alexander House, located on the grounds of the Charlotte Museum of History, in Charlotte. Brother Hezekiah Alexander was an early Masonic and civic leader in Mecklenburg County in the 18th century. Many of our early brethren there were leaders in the cause of American Independence, and are due our undying esteem and devotion to them as true patriots and heroes. Thanks to the persistent efforts and enlightened research by W. . Walter J. Klein, of Charlotte, who has written several excellent articles on the subject, we now know that Brother Alexander incorporated many Masonic symbols into the construction of his house, and that many Masonic meetings were held there.

Following the closing of the Grand Lodge in the Alexander House, our official party was escorted down the hill, accompanied by a brother playing the bagpipes, to the site of the new Freedom Bell, where we had been invited by the Charlotte Museum of History to participate in its civic ceremony of dedication. Brother John Belk, a former Mayor of Charlotte, donated the money to have the bell cast and the site constructed. It is inspiring to know that such a strong sense of patriotism still dwells in the breasts of American citizens and Masons. To this civil ceremony also were invited the Grand Master and other officers and members of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of North Carolina. The significance of this occasion was not lost on the news media, and very favorable articles were carried in papers across the State. I am very grateful for this very favorable exposure for our fraternity, which will result in a much greater appreciation and respect by the general public.

On Saturday, November 13, 1999, an Emergent Communication of the Grand Lodge was held in Greensboro, for the purpose of dedicating the new Care and Wellness Center at the Masonic and Eastern Star Home.

Honors and Awards

In July, the Order of DeMolay awarded me their Legion of Honor. The ceremony was skillfully performed, and was very impressive. I continue to be deeply moved by this honor, and will treasure it always.

In October, the Supreme Council of the Scottish Rite, Southern Jurisdiction, elected me to receive the 33rd Degree, Inspector General Honorary. Bro. John Elmore, of the Greensboro Valley, and I received our degrees in the Scottish Rite Temple in Washington, DC. It was a very impressive ceremony.

In January, at the Installation of their new officers, our Oasis brethren presented me with an Honorary Membership in their Temple. It is a beautiful plaque, which I have hung in my office. This honor was totally unexpected, and I will treasure it forever.

Petitions for Waivers of Physical Disabilities

Every Grand Master no doubt is required to rule upon requests for waivers of physical disabilities by petitioners for our degrees. Many of the lessons of our ritual are symbolic only, and I feel very strongly that, whenever possible, a good man should not be prevented from joining our fraternity by virtue of some physical disability that is beyond his control.

In several instances, the petitioners were on disability, and I entertained personal doubts as to their ability to pay the dues and discharge the

other financial obligations required by membership. In another case, because of knowledge gained through my service in the Naval Reserve Judge Advocate General's Corps, a petitioner's *Other Than Honorable* discharge caused me to question his desirability for our fraternity. In several cases, I asked my District Deputy Grand Masters to investigate further and make recommendations. In every case, I granted the requested waivers, feeling that, ultimately, such decisions are best left to the brethren in the local Lodges.

Dispensations Granted

Again, every Grand Master no doubt is asked to grant dispensations of various types. These usually involve requests to hold special elections of officers, requests to meet without a Charter while it is being repaired or refurbished, or requests to hold outdoor degrees or otherwise to meet in a location other than that specified in its Charter, most of which are routinely granted. This year was no different, and I granted a number of these.

I also granted a dispensation for one of our Lodges to confer the Third Degree in a ceremony in another state. I deeply regretted the necessity of having to grant a dispensation to Grifton No. 243 to meet at Ayden No. 498, after Grifton's facility was destroyed by the flooding incident to Hurricane Floyd.

Honorary Title of Past District Deputy Grand Master

I recommend that the honorary title of Past District Deputy Grand Master be granted to the following brethren, each of whom is both qualified and eligible pursuant to Reg. 11-4.2 of *The Code*.

Annual Communication

Based on my own experience and what I have observed of our Craft, I know that many of our brethren do not enjoy attending the Annual Communication. They do so only out of a sense of obligation. It is true that, with all of the business that we have to address, our Annual Communications sometimes can be dull and boring. This year I have endeavored to change that. I have tried to add some new and different events and activities.

This past Wednesday, April 26, 2000, to kick off the informal activities of the Annual Communication, Millbrook No. 97 performed the First Section of the Third Degree at the Raleigh Masonic Temple. The North Carolina Highway Patrol Degree Team conferred the Second Section. The Highway Patrol Degree Team is very popular, and usually performs before a packed house. Yesterday, April 27, 2000, we held our ritual competition—R.E.A.P.—Ritualistic Excellence Awards Program. That afternoon, Brother Dudley Davis from Maryland conducted a Masonic Leadership Development training program.

Our agenda includes a number of guest speakers: Brother Dean Vaughn from Pennsylvania; Brother Brent Morris from Maryland; Brother Nelson King from Ontario, Canada; and Brother Tom Stecher from Pennsylvania. Several of the musical groups from Oasis Shrine Temple will provide entertainment throughout our Communication. We also will have other musical and other entertainment. Several activities have been planned especially for your ladies.

I hope that you will enjoy these new events and activities, and that your attendance at the Annual Communication will be made more enjoyable, more educational, and more fun.

Joseph Montfort Medals

I will present the three Joseph Montfort Medals which I am privileged to give at our Awards Banquet this evening.

Necrology

In the Masonic Funeral Service, we are told that notwithstanding the various mementoes of mortality, with which we daily meet; notwithstanding Death has established his empire over all the works of nature; yet, through some unaccountable infatuation, we forget that we are born to die. Yet, we often are reminded in the Third Degree Lecture that the hour-glass is an emblem of human life. Behold! how swiftly the sands run, and how rapidly our lives are drawing to a close! We cannot without astonishment behold the little particles which are contained in this machine; how they pass away almost imperceptibly; and yet, to our surprise, in the short space of an hour they are all exhausted. Thus wastes man! Today, he puts forth the tender leaves of hope; tomorrow, blossoms and bears his blushing honors thick upon him; the next day comes a frost which nips the shoot; and when he thinks his greatness is still aspiring, he falls, like autumn leaves, to enrich our mother earth.

It is the will of God that some of our brethren are taken from us, from this terrestrial sphere, to the celestial Lodge above. It always is with great sadness and heaviness of heart that we come to the point in our deliberations where we honor them. Because of our loss, we drop the sympathetic tear. That is only natural. We have lost our friends. Our brethren have been taken from us. Never again will we see them on this earth. Never again until our weary feet at last shall have come to the end of their toilsome journey, and from our nerveless grasp shall drop forever the working tools of life.

But, as Freemasons, we believe in the evergreen. It is an emblem of our faith in the immortality of the soul. By it we are reminded that we have an immortal part within us, which shall survive the grave, and which shall never, never, never die. There is hope of a tree, if it be cut down, that it will sprout again, and that the tender branch thereof will not cease. We have faith, and we take comfort in the knowledge and in the assurance that we will see them once again. The Grand Architect of the Universe blesses us and strengthens us. The gloom of death is dispelled by the enlivening prospect of His mercy, and His favor.

We know that man who is born of a woman is full of trouble. We know that the journey through this life, this veil of tears, is a difficult one. Yet, our trust being in God, our faith is well founded, and we do not fear the Valley of the Shadow of Death. We are assured that when the trials of our probationary state are over, we may find an entrance through the gates, into the everlasting kingdom, to enjoy, in union with the souls of our departed friends, the just reward of a pious and virtuous life. We have faith that when our trembling souls shall stand naked and alone before the Great White Throne, it may be our portion to hear from Him who sitteth as the Judge Supreme the welcome words: *Well done, good and faithful servant; enter thou into the joy of thy Lord.*

This year, we were greatly saddened by the loss of our well-beloved brother, Most Worshipful Robert Norman Bass, Jr., of Millbrook No. 97 in Raleigh. Brother Bob served as Grand Master in 1968-1969. He truly loved Freemasonry, and was its devoted servant. Brother Bob also loved our Homes. In recognition of his service, the care center at the Masonic and Eastern Star Home in Greensboro was named in his honor. Brother Bob was a wonderful man, with a warm and engaging personality. A friend to all. He truly loved people, Freemasons most of all. I have missed his wise counsel

during my term as Grand Master, and I will miss his voice and his friendship in the years to come.

Probably each and every one of our Lodges has lost at least one of its members. My own Lodge lost eight. These men meant a great deal to us at the local level. Their presence is no less missed than that of a Grand Lodge Officer. We cherished their memory here, and we will continue to cherish their memory, for all time to come. They were a part of us. A part of us that now is gone. Gone, until we are reunited once again in the Heavenly Lodge, "The Temple," not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

So live, that when thy summons comes to join
The innumerable caravan which moves
To that mysterious realm where each shall take
His chamber in the silent halls of death,
Thou go not like the quarry-slave at night,
Scourged to his dungeon,
But, sustained and soothed
By an unfaltering trust, approach thy grave
Like one who wraps the drapery of his couch
About him and lies down to pleasant dreams.

W. and the Reverend A. Gene Cobb, Jr., of Royal White Hart No. 2 in Halifax, Assistant Grand Chaplain and Chairman of our Committee on Necrology, will lead our annual Memorial Service this afternoon, in memory of all of our departed brethren.

The will of God is accomplished! So mote it be. Amen.

THE STATE OF THE CRAFT

GENERAL CONDITION OF MASONRY

As noted hereinabove, Reg. 13-2.5 of *The Code* of 1995, as amended, requires the Grand Master to present a written report on the first day of the Annual Communication setting forth the general condition of Masonry within this jurisdiction, and recommending such legislation and such action as he may deem necessary.

OTHER SUBJECTS OR MATTERS

Also as noted hereinabove, Reg. 13-5 provides that the Grand Master may include in his Report such other subjects or matters as he may desire to submit.

In accordance with those provisions, I hereby submit the following:

Introduction

I am from a small, country Lodge, and had no hope of ever being appointed to the Grand Lodge Line. Except for the District Officers, no one from my Lodge or District has been active in the Grand Lodge. As best I can recall, I had never known a Grand Master personally, nor anyone connected with the Grand Lodge. Because of that background, when I joined the Line, and ever since, I have considered myself to be an outsider. I had no vested interests to protect. As our Judges charge our juries, I had no enemy to punish and no friend to reward. My only goal has been to do what I feel is in the best interests of Freemasonry. Everything that I have done and said this year has been with that single goal in mind.

Goals & Objectives, and Accomplishments

As mentioned hereinabove, based on my experiences and observations during my 29 years as a Master Mason, Master and District Deputy Grand

Master, and especially the eight years as I progressed through the Grand Lodge Line, last year I developed a number of written goals and objectives for my term as Grand Master.

I was cautioned by friends against attempting too much. I was advised by many brethren to select no more than three projects to work on this year. However, I am deeply concerned that we are not devoting the time, attention and energy that are required in order to try to resolve many of the problems and issues with which we are confronted. Also, I know that we have a great wealth of talent in our fraternity, and that many members would like to become more involved and be given an opportunity to serve. Because of that, I adopted an ambitious agenda for my term.

These goals and objectives—my agenda—my designs upon the Trestle Board—will be discussed hereinbelow.

Zero-Based Review

The North Carolina Constitution (1971), in Article I, Section 35, states that a *frequent recurrence to fundamental principles is absolutely necessary to preserve the blessings of liberty*. I share the philosophy that it is wise to refer back to the basics frequently. In much of what I do, whether it is work in the law, work for the Navy or work for Freemasonry, I like to review the basic governing principles under which I am operating. I think that if we fail to do that periodically, eventually we will get off course.

I am concerned that in many of the activities of our fraternity and our Grand Lodge, we simply are continuing to do the same old things that we always have done, and that we are continuing to do them in the same old way. In his article, *The Path of the Law*, 10 Harvard Law Review 457, at 469 (1897), Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes noted that *[it] is revolting to have no better reason for a rule of law than that it was laid down in the time of Henry IV. It is still more revolting if the grounds upon which it was laid down have vanished long since, and the rule simply persists from blind imitation of the past*. I agree. We should not blindly or routinely or rotely continue to do things the same way simply because *that is the way we have always done it*, or because we have done it that way *since time immemorial*, or, as we lawyers would say, *since that time from whence the memory of man runneth not to the contrary*. Junior Grand Warden Bill Mathis is fond of quoting that *if you keep on doing what you've always done, you'll keep on getting what you've always got!*

I am concerned that we may be doing things that we should not be doing, but—more importantly—that we are not doing things that we should be doing. I also am concerned that we are continuing to do things in the same old way that we always have done them, and that because of that we are not doing them in the most efficient or effective manner.

As everyone is well aware, the resources of the Grand Lodge and our subordinate Lodges are not unlimited. We all have finite budgets with which to operate. Therefore, it is imperative that we do only those things for which there is a demonstrated need, and that we do them in the most efficient and effective manner possible.

For all of the foregoing reasons, I asked each of the Boards, Commissions and Committees to review the provisions in *The Code* of 1995, as amended, pertaining to its respective group, and its duties and responsibilities.

I am greatly pleased to report that we have made great progress in addressing some of the issues and concerns set forth in my goals and objectives. However, there is much that remains to be done.

BOARDS

Board of General Purposes

The principal provision outlining the duties and responsibilities of the Board of General Purposes is found in Reg. 28-3.3 of *The Code*, which states in pertinent part that the Board *shall serve to coordinate and facilitate the general activities of the Grand Lodge in all of the institutions and agencies in which the Grand Lodge has a proprietary interest..., and of all officers, departments, boards, commissions, or committees of the Grand Lodge through regular or periodical review and consultation from time to time.* As in everything that I have done this year, or endeavored to do, it was my goal to comply fully with *The Code*.

I do not feel that the Board of General Purposes can properly fulfill its responsibilities and discharge its duties to coordinate and facilitate the general activities of the Grand Lodge, and of all Officers, Boards, Commissions and Committees—as required by Reg. 28-3.3—meeting for only 2-3 hours four times per year. For that reason, it was my goal to have the Board meet every two months. Although Reg. 28-9 prescribes that the Board will meet quarterly, that establishes the minimum number, and does not prevent more frequent meetings of the Board.

In the past, some of our most important activities (e.g., Code Commission, Lodge Service Commission, Jurisprudence Committee, Special Activities Committee, and Special Committee on Insurance) have not been included on the agenda for the meetings of the Board of General Purposes, despite the requirements of Reg. 28-3.3. For that reason, it also was my goal to include all of the Boards, Commissions and Committees, and other activities, on the agenda for each meeting of the Board.

I also do not feel that it is productive to have a member of the Board of General Purposes read a report prepared by someone on another committee, about which the Board member knows nothing. For that reason, it was my goal to invite the Chairmen of the various Boards, Commissions and Committees to attend the meetings of the Board of General Purposes, and to make their report in person.

Further, I do not feel that it is an efficient use of the Board members' time to sit in the meetings and listen to someone read a report. For that reason, it was my goal to have all reports and other items for the Board members to be submitted to the Grand Secretary no later than two weeks prior to the Board meetings, and then to mail copies to each Board member for his review prior to the meeting.

Most Worshipful Gerry T. Smith, when he was Grand Master, initiated a policy of trying to ensure that all members of the Boards of our two Homes had visited both campuses. I think that is a great idea. I also think that it is a good idea to have the members of the various Grand Lodge Boards, Commissions and Committees also to meet on both campuses, thereby further promoting these two charities. Therefore, I requested and encouraged the Chairmen of the Boards, Commissions and Committees to try to schedule meetings of their group on each campus.

The Board of General Purposes met in Raleigh on June 25, 1999; October 9, 1999; January 14, 2000; March 11, 2000; and, finally, at the Annual Communication, on April 27, 2000. The Board of General Purposes met at the Masonic and Eastern Star Home in Greensboro, on August 27, 1999. I regret that we were not able to schedule a meeting at the Masonic Home for Children in Oxford.

I am well aware of the provisions in *The Code* pertaining to the powers and authority of the Grand Master. I also am well aware of the ancient and customary powers and authority of the Grand Master. In my opinion, too

many actions have been taken by the Grand Master without consulting with the other Grand Lodge Officers or the Board of General Purposes. One of my overriding goals this year has been to try to develop a sense of teamwork among the Grand Lodge Officers, and to try to achieve unity, or at least consensus, thereby ensuring continuity of programs.

In my opinion, it is absolutely imperative that our Grand Lodge Leadership functions as a team. Under Ill. Sir Paul Whitfield, Potentate in 1992, the leadership of Oasis Temple in Charlotte adopted a team approach. T.E.A.M.—*Together Everyone Achieves More*. Succeeding Potentates and Divan Officers are to be commended for continuing this great improvement. In my opinion, it is absolutely critical that we develop our Grand Lodge programs as a team—including the leadership and the membership—thereby ensuring broad acceptance and the continuity that is necessary for our survival and success.

For these reasons, it was my goal to involve all of the Grand Lodge Line Officers and the members of the Board of General Purposes in formulating policy and programs for our Grand Lodge, and in making many of the decisions that are required. We have some of the finest talent in Freemasonry serving on our Board of General Purposes. Most of these men have experience in leading other statewide organizations. I deeply regret that we did not accomplish all of my goals and objectives for the Board of General Purposes this year. I do feel that we have made some progress in that regard, but more remains to be accomplished.

It is my goal to see the Board of General Purposes truly serve to coordinate and facilitate the general activities of the Grand Lodge, and its Boards, Commissions and Committees. With our limited financial resources, we cannot afford any duplication of efforts or any wasted efforts. For financial reasons, and also in order to ensure that we achieve our maximum potential as an organization, it is vital that we operate with a coordinated effort in all that we do. Based on what I have observed in the past, I feel that too often some of our activities act independently of any central direction or coordination. In order to change that, it will require a change in the manner of thinking of the Grand Lodge leadership—including the Grand Master—and the members of the Board of General Purposes, as well as the members of the other Boards, Commissions and Committees.

Our goal in this, as in all that we do, in my opinion, should be to try to determine how we can improve what we are doing in order to do it better and more effectively.

Conclusion

I want to thank each and every one of the members of the Board of General Purposes for all that we have accomplished this year. I am disappointed that I did not receive more support for some of the goals and objectives that I tried to achieve this year. However, I am grateful for the successes that we did achieve. I sincerely hope that the Board will realize that we no longer can continue doing business as usual, and that we must effect certain changes in order to ensure that our beloved fraternity will survive and thrive.

Recommendations

I recommend that the size of the Board of General Purposes be expanded. I recommend that—at a minimum—all of the members of the Grand Lodge Line be added to the Board. Such a change will result in a greater unity or consensus, and greater continuity of programs, thereby achieving financial efficiencies and maximum program effectiveness.

I recommend more representatives of the general membership be added

to the Board. In my opinion, one desirable change would be to reduce the number of Districts, and add all of the District Deputy Grand Masters to the Board of General Purposes. That would give the DDGMs a greater sense of being a part of the leadership of the Grand Lodge, and also would ensure that all geographic areas of the State are represented.

I recommend that the Board consider creating a representative Executive Committee, to meet monthly to assist in the management and affairs of the Grand Lodge.

I recommend that the Board of General Purposes be given greater authority in creating the policies of the Grand Lodge, and in establishing its goals and objectives, and implementing its programs—in short, a greater role in the management of the affairs of the Grand Lodge, perhaps something akin to a Board of Directors in other statewide organizations. It is absolutely critical to our success that we ensure a broad base of support for our policies and programs.

I recommend that we study the matter of whether the Grand Master should chair the Board of General Purposes, or whether someone else should chair it. The general membership wants to see and hear the Grand Master, and shake his hand. Yet, we have so overburdened the Grand Master with jobs, that he has too little time to attend to the ceremonial aspect of his office. In some Grand Jurisdictions, notably the United Grand Lodge of England, the Grand Master does not chair the Board of General Purposes. Someone else serves as its President. I also understand that in some Grand Jurisdictions the Deputy Grand Master chairs the Board.

I recommend that we devise a method to ensure that those serving in the Grand Lodge Line have ample opportunity to participate in the most important functions of the Grand Lodge, and to gain the knowledge and experience necessary to enable them to provide the proper degree of leadership. For example, in one statewide organization of which I am a member, the people who are in line to become President in turn chair the finance committee. Along those lines, we might decide to have the Senior Grand Warden chair the Finance Committee, and the Junior Grand Warden chair the Strategic Planning Committee.

I recommend that the Board of General Purposes meet more often than quarterly, and that it set aside a sufficient amount of time to cover adequately and address all of the general activities of the Grand Lodge, and its Boards, Commissions and Committees, in order to ensure that we pursue a coordinated program so as to obtain maximum financial efficiencies and maximum program effectiveness. In the past, we have not achieved the level of coordination that is required for maximum fiscal efficiency and program effectiveness. This year, as Grand Master, I have tried to do that. However, the structure of our organization makes that humanly impossible to do. It is critical that we achieve a coordinated effort, for maximum efficiency and effectiveness.

I recommend that the Board set aside time to meet informally—perhaps a *brainstorming* session or a planning retreat—in order to discuss the problems and issues with which Freemasonry is confronted, and to try to design and implement solutions.

I recognize that what I am recommending constitutes an entirely new and different role for the Board of General Purposes. However, I strongly believe that it is the right way to go, and that it is the way that we must go.

Board of Custodians

Chapter 29 of *The Code* contains the provisions pertaining to the duties and responsibilities of the Board of Custodians. Reg. 29-6 provides in pertinent part that the Board has complete charge of the authorized

ritualistic work, and also has charge of Masonic ritualistic education.

We owe a great deal—both as a fraternity and as individual Masons—to those of our brethren who have devoted the time and effort to become Certified Lecturers. In an organization like ours—one which requires the use of ritual in every facet of its operation—we are dependent upon them. However, I have felt for many years that the Certified Lecturers exercise an inordinate and unhealthy degree of influence and control in our fraternity. By that, I mean that we as an organization have tended to emphasize and focus on our ritual, rather than ensuring that our members are learning the real lessons of Freemasonry, including its principles and tenets.

I also feel that the Board of Custodians has exercised an inordinate and unhealthy degree of influence and control. I feel that the Board of Custodians has tended to act in a manner which I—and many others—consider to be too independent of the Board of General Purposes, the Grand Lodge Officers, and even the Grand Master. I do not doubt or question the sincerity of these men, or their dedication to the Craft.

Through the years, I have become aware of numerous instances in which members of the Craft—including some in positions of leadership—made what I consider to be reasonable requests of the Board, only to be rebuffed and refused. Repeated requests for approval and use of costumes in conferring the degrees is merely one example. In my opinion, the Board has been too opposed to change, being unwilling or unable to consider even the least bit of change.

In making my appointments to the Board of Custodians, I was first guided by the self-imposed guidelines that I adopted. I decided that I would not reappoint—to any position—anyone who had served either two terms or six years in it. I also aggressively sought out men who have expertise in our ritual, but who at the same time have demonstrated their ability to be open-minded.

I appointed W. William L. Dill, C.L., of St. John's No. 3 in New Bern, and District Deputy Grand Lecturer in the 7th Masonic District, and asked the Board to elect him as Chairman, which it did, and which I greatly appreciate. Brother Dill is employed in the Craven County school system, and is extremely knowledgeable and proficient in the area of planning. The agendas which he has prepared for the meetings of the Board have ensured that all matters were adequately presented and considered, while at the same time guaranteeing that the business was conducted in an efficient and timely manner. Bro. Dill has performed admirably, bringing a new sense of organization and purpose to the Board.

I also appointed W. Dr. James Earl Vann, C.L., PDDGL, of St. John's No. 1 in Wilmington, who has spent much of his career in the field of adult education. Last, I asked W. J. Luigi Ammons, C.L., PDDGL, of Millbrook No. 97 in Raleigh, to serve as Secretary of the Board. Bro. Ammons served on the Board for several years, and since the death of Bro. Floyd Dunn he has functioned as its Secretary. There is no more dedicated Mason than Bro. Ammons. I know of no one who operates with Bro. Ammons' efficiency. He has worked extremely hard to bring order to the records of the Board, and to ensure that it functions smoothly and effectively.

One member of the Board resigned due to reasons of age and health, and I appointed W. John W. ("Jack") Johnston, III, C.L., of Crown Point No. 708 in Greenville, and a Past District Deputy Grand Lecturer in the 5th Masonic District. Later, I was forced to remove a member of the Board—after previously expressing to him my concern—for his failure to attend the meetings of the Board. In his place, I appointed W. C. Richard ("Rick") Patton, of Black Mountain No. 663.

Regulation 29-1 of *The Code* provides that the Grand Master serves as

an *ex officio* member of the Board of Custodians. I understand that in the past, some Grand Masters have not participated on this Board. However, I take very seriously the work of the Board of Custodians, and I think that I attended all of its meetings. The Board of Custodians met in Raleigh on August 20, 1999, and December 11, 1999. It met at the Masonic Temple in Greensboro, on January 21, 2000, and at the Masonic Home for Children on March 25, 2000.

Based on my observations and experience during my 30 years as a Master Mason, I do not feel that we are accomplishing what we should be accomplishing—and what we need to be accomplishing—with our ritual. That should be obvious to everyone. We have Lodges in which the sitting officers cannot confer the degrees. We have Lodges in which the officers cannot even open and close proficiently. Before it was suspended, our Lecture Service was disliked by the membership. Our Schools of Instruction are not interesting or enjoyable. Usually they are poorly attended, and generally fail to achieve their intended purpose. We simply are not getting the job done. Why not?

Zero-Based Review

To try to obtain an answer to that question, I asked the Board of Custodians to conduct a zero based review of itself, its functions, and everything within its area of responsibility. What are we doing? Why are we doing it? How are we doing it? What should we be doing? How should we be doing it? Can we do more it effectively? How can we improve it?

Zero-Based Review of Our Ritual

I also asked the Board to study the question of why we have a ritual, and how we arrived at the ritual that we use today (i.e., to review the history of the development of our ritual). In my opinion, only if we know how our degrees were conferred and how our lessons were taught in the past, and how we developed the ritual that we use today, can we objectively determine what, if any, changes or improvements we need to make.

For example, according to the 1993 book, *Freemasonry, A Celebration of the Craft*, edited by Brothers John Hamill and Robert Gilbert for the Grand Lodge of England, the earliest English Lodges met in taverns and coffee houses. For the conferral of degrees, the appropriate emblems and symbols were drawn on the floor in chalk. From the latter part of the seventeenth century, the candidate took an obligation on the Bible to preserve the mysteries of the Craft. The Mason Word and Sign then were communicated to him, and the Charges were read. By 1700 a two-degree system, of Entered Apprentice and Fellow Craft, was in place. It was not until the 1720's that a third degree, that of Master Mason, made its appearance.

Gradually, the ceremonies became more elaborate. The Obligation, accompanied now by a physical penalty, was followed by the communication of the Sign and Word. In the second part of the ceremony there was a short catechism, in which the ceremony and the purpose of the degree were explained. From the 1770's these explanations began to be expanded, incorporating additional working tools as symbols of particular virtues. Today, there is a wide variety of degree ceremonies practiced in England, but the basic framework is effectively the same as it has been since a standard form of ritual was introduced in 1816.

In reviewing the history of our ritual, it is important to bear in mind the various divisions that have existed in Freemasonry through the years. The Grand Lodge of England was organized by four London Lodges in 1717. Little more than ten years later, changes in both custom and ritual began appearing, which some members of the Craft viewed with alarm. Becoming

increasingly concerned with what they saw as unwarranted interference with the Landmarks, a rival Grand Lodge was established in 1753. Interestingly, the new group, claiming to represent traditional Freemasonry, styled themselves as *Antients*, while the older organization paradoxically was nicknamed the *Moderns*.

For years thereafter, both rival Grand Lodges, along with those of Ireland (1725) and Scotland (1736), chartered subordinate Lodges around the world. I think that it is extremely interesting that our earliest Lodges here in North Carolina were chartered under the authority of several different Grand Lodges. St. John's No. 1, in Wilmington, was chartered in 1755 by one of the English Grand Lodges, but my information does not indicate which one, whether Antient or Modern. Union Lodge, now Phoenix No. 8, in Fayetteville, was chartered by the Grand Lodge of Scotland in 1760. First Lodge in Pitt County was chartered by the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts in 1764, and old Blandford-Bute Lodge in what is now Warren County was chartered by the Grand Lodge of Virginia in 1766.

In studying Masonic history, as with any history, it is necessary to bear in mind the general historical setting in which it developed. Seventeenth century England was in constant turmoil, including a civil war. Political and religious differences could, and often did, cost a man his life. In 1813, the two rival London Grand Lodges joined together, and since that time the consolidated organization has been known as the United Grand Lodge of England. During the eighteenth century, Masonic ritual was heavily influenced by adherents of the Renaissance. When the ritual was revised in 1814-1816, in an effort to eliminate religious and political intolerance, the rite was de-Christianized, so that non-Christians could participate.

These revisions also had a profound effect on the nature of Freemasonry. In the eighteenth century, the rituals attempted to instill in members a simple moral code. However, the new rituals exemplified the three great Masonic principles of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth, and emphasized the centrality of God in human existence. All of this had a profound impact on the Freemasonry that we practice today.

From my reading of Masonic history, I know that several men have been instrumental in the development of the ritual as we know it today. The Englishman William Preston (1742-1818) made many significant changes and additions. The American Thomas Smith Webb (1771-1819) is generally acknowledged to have revised the work as practiced in America. It is my understanding that although the ritual of most, if not all, American Grand Jurisdictions today is based on the Webb system, yet there is no uniform standard for the entire country. Brothers who have observed the conferral of degrees in other states have indicated that there are major differences. Indeed, until 1942 we here in North Carolina did not have a standard ritual. It was in that year that the *Official Standard of the Work* was adopted.

I share this background in order to make a point. Those brethren who insist that we are doing the same things today that we did "300 years ago" do not know what they are talking about. That simply is not correct. There have been many, many major changes introduced into Masonic ritual through the years and from jurisdiction to jurisdiction.

In studying these issues, I asked the Board of Custodians to review what other organizations are doing in the area of ritual. Such other organizations should include, but not necessarily be limited to, the Scottish Rite, York Rite, and other Masonic bodies, as well as the Shrine, the Eastern Star and other related organizations.

The purpose of a study of the historical development and purpose of our ritual is not intended to be a mere academic exercise. Rather, it is to answer certain critically important questions: Why do we have a ritual? What is the purpose of our ritual? Are we making Masons? Or are we only making

members? Are we truly teaching the lessons of Freemasonry? Are we truly teaching the great principles for which Freemasonry stands? How effective are we? How can we do it better?

In addition to the three degrees, our ritual includes other matters, such as our funeral ceremony, and opening and closing the Lodge. I also asked the Board to consider whether we should revise our funeral ceremony. In view of the difficulties many of our Lodges are experiencing in getting enough members to participate in Masonic funerals, and the fact that we seldom, if ever, practice the funeral ceremony, I asked the Board of Custodians to study whether we need to provide for a simplified Masonic funeral ceremony in which only one person speaks and acts, and the other brethren simply stand together as a group (i.e., eliminate the Wardens, Deacons, etc.).

I also asked the Board to study whether we should revise our ritual for opening and closing the Lodge. Should we devise an abbreviated ritual for opening and closing? In view of the comments of many of our members, that they find our meetings boring, and that they want shorter meetings, do we need to provide for a simplified, shorter method of opening and closing the Lodge? Can we eliminate the requirement for the reading and approving of the Minutes? Can we allow Lodges to mail the Minutes to their members, and everyone read them between meetings, and then simply correct or approve at the next meeting? Should we change our procedure, so that most of our meetings are conducted in the First Degree? In some countries, Lodges open and operate on the First Degree, allowing EA's and FC's to attend and participate, thereby causing them to feel more a part of the fraternity. Are there other aspects of our ritual that we need to change? As always, the goal of this effort is to determine if we can improve what we are doing and make it better.

Zero-Based Review of the Official Standard of the Work (OSW)

In addition to reviewing our ritual in general, I also asked the Board to review the *OSW*. As mentioned above, it is my understanding that until 1942, we here in North Carolina did not have a standard ritual. It was in that year that the *Official Standard of the Work* was adopted. In addition to the question of how and why we arrived at what we have today, other questions are obvious: Should we have an official standard work? Why? What is its purpose? What form should it take? Should it be printed in code? Should it be printed in plain English?

Zero-Based Review of Certified Lecturer Program

I asked the Board to review the Certified Lecturer program. Should we continue to have Certified Lecturers? If so, why? How should the program be structured? What policies and rules should apply and govern? How should certification be achieved?

At my Area Meeting in Rocky Mount, a well-respected DDGM, who is a former C.L. and DDGL, suggested that in order to get new members active more quickly, and in order to get more members involved, we should institute a system whereby brethren could become certified in smaller portions of the work. For example, we could offer certification in the First Degree, Second Degree, and Third Degree. We even could offer certification in portions of the work in the three degrees, such as the Lecture, the Charge, etc. It appeared to me that the majority of those present at the Area Meeting favored such a change, and I think that the Board of Custodians should seriously consider such a change.

At other meetings, it has been suggested that, instead of the applicants for certification—and those who conduct the examinations—having to travel to five cities around the State, the local DDGL, or one or more DDGLs from the surrounding area, can conduct the examination and issue the

certification. It also has been suggested that each person seeking certification could have a card, on which are listed all of the areas in which he must demonstrate proficiency. As each area is completed (e.g., First Degree Lecture, or Third Degree Lecture), that blank simply could be checked off on the form, indicating that he had passed proficiency on that item.

It is my understanding that the number of Certified Lecturers has been declining in recent years, and that we now are below 400. Should we institute a program to encourage more members to become certified? Should we selectively and aggressively recruit and encourage good ritualists to become certified? Should we offer training seminars or other programs or ways by which more brethren can become certified? What are other Grand Jurisdictions doing? How are they doing it? Can we learn from other jurisdictions? Our goal in this, as in all that we do, should be to try to determine how can we improve what we are doing.

Zero-Based Review of District Deputy Grand Lecturer Program

I asked the Board to review the District Deputy Grand Lecturer Program. Should we have DDGLs? If so, why? What should be their role? Their authority? Their responsibilities? For whom should they work? To whom should they be answerable? How should the DDGL's program be structured? Should we hold an annual meeting of DDGLs? Should we hold DDGL's meetings more often than annually? What can we do to help and support our DDGLs more? Again, how can we improve what we are doing, and do it more effectively?

Zero-Based Review of Schools of Instruction

I asked the Board to study the manner in which we teach ritualistic proficiency, including the Lecture Service and the current Schools of Instruction. What is the best way to teach our ritual? What are other Grand Jurisdictions around the world doing? How are they doing it? Can we learn from other jurisdictions? Once again, how can we improve what we are doing, and do it more effectively?

Zero-Based Review of Conferral of Degrees

I asked the Board to study our present method for the conferral of degrees, and try to determine ways in which we can do it better.

In too many of our Lodges, the officers are not proficient in the conferral of our degrees. Too many Lodges cannot even get their officers to attend a degree practice. Too many of our Lodges never can get enough members to participate and practice in order to perform the Third Degree properly and proficiently. Too many of our Lodges cannot confer a degree without the assistance of members from other Lodges to fill the chairs or to give the lectures or charges.

It is obvious that we are not accomplishing our goals as far as our ritual and the conferral of degrees is concerned. Why? What can we do to improve the situation? How can we make our work more interesting? More fun? More appealing? What can we do to improve our ritualistic work? If a Lodge cannot confer a degree by itself, should we institute a program to provide for District or other degree teams? Should we institute a program for degree competitions? Should we encourage greater use of costumes in the conferral of degrees? Should we encourage greater use of background and other scenery in the conferral of degrees? Should we encourage greater use of music in the conferral of degrees?

Should we encourage greater use of Scottish Rite, York Rite, Shrine, or other facilities which offer the capability of costumes, music, scenery, etc.?

Should we encourage out-of-state degree exchanges? Should we encourage out-door degree conferrals? Should we make greater use of formal drama instruction? Several of our members teach high school English and drama, and I am sure that other members are involved in school or community theater or drama groups. Why can't we utilize their expertise? Should we continue our current provisions on the conferral of degrees? Should we impose minimum time periods, such as one year, between each of the degrees? Should we require a course of study, with demonstrated knowledge proficiency, before allowing a man to advance to the next degree?

I understand that in many European countries, it takes several years to advance to Master Mason. Should we impose time restrictions on advancement? Or, on the other hand, should we allow Lodges to use one-day degree classes? Should we continue the requirement for memorization of a catechism on each degree? Does the requirement for memorization of catechisms prevent some good men from becoming Masons? What is the goal or purpose of requiring catechisms? If the catechisms are so vitally important (as many brethren believe), then why don't we require the Third Degree catechism of all Master Masons, instead of only those who desire to become officers in their Lodges?

Can we teach the principles and lessons of Freemasonry in other ways? Would they be just as effective? More effective? Neither the Scottish Rite, York Rite nor Shrine require the memorization of catechisms. Why should Craft Masonry be any different? The Scottish Rite, York Rite and Shrine all make use of multiple degrees on one day. Why should Craft Masonry be any different? What are other Grand Jurisdictions around the world doing? Why are there differences? Are the differences significant? Can we learn from other jurisdictions? Once more, how can we improve what we are doing, and do it better?

Conclusion

In short, I asked the Board of Custodians to review and study everything pertaining to our ritual, and to try to determine ways in which we can make it more interesting, more fun, and more effective.

One of my major goals for my term as Grand Master was to hold some type of degree competition in an effort to try to develop a greater level of interest in ritual proficiency. We cannot force a Lodge to do anything. However, through the proper use of competition, in my opinion, we can motivate them to want to perform better. At St. John's Day in Oxford in 1998, I chatted with W. Dan Hogue, our Grand Lecturer, and shared with him my desire to organize some type of degree competition should I be elected Grand Master. I met with the Board of Custodians on June 11, 1999, and requested that they sponsor a degree competition at the 2000 Annual Communication. At its meeting on October 11, 1999, Bro. Hogue presented a proposal for a degree team competition. Bro. Hogue is employed with the Rowan County schools (as a Counselor, I believe) and he has had experience with public speaking competitions. The Board approved the concept, and Bro. Hogue brought the final rules and guidelines to the January 21, 2000, meeting of the Board, at which they were approved. I am extremely pleased that we offered this degree competition—called R.E.A.P., for Ritualistic Excellence Awards Program—yesterday, April 27, 2000. I am deeply grateful to Bro. Hogue, and to the Board of Custodians, for all of their hard work and support in this project.

I have heard that our ritual has some variations from District to District, often in adjoining Districts, and I wanted to ensure that we are using the standard ritual statewide. In order to try to accomplish that, I wanted to hold a conference or workshop for the DDGLs, at which the Board

of Custodians, or other knowledgeable brethren, could exemplify the standard ritual. I am greatly pleased that the Board agreed. It was decided to include the DDGLs in the workshops for the DDGMs. The first one was held in Greensboro on January 22, 2000, and the second one was held in Oxford on March 25, 2000. These workshops consisted of a morning session in which both groups were present, and then in the afternoon sessions the DDGLs break out from the DDGMs for separate instruction and discussions. These workshops were extremely successful, and have served to enhance the office of DDGL, which was another of my goals this year.

I am extremely pleased that the Board voted to print the red (floor) work in plain English, with certain obvious protections. In my opinion, that is a major accomplishment in making our ritual more accessible to, and more understandable by, our members. Most of our members do not know or understand the great principles of Freemasonry, or the moral lessons which we claim to teach, because they cannot read about them since they are printed in code. I am convinced that many of the problems that we are experiencing in Freemasonry today are the direct result of the fact that too few of our members truly know and understand the principles and lessons of Freemasonry. Unless a person already knows the work, he cannot read the OSW. The Board of General Purposes approved this change, and I strongly recommend that the delegates at the Annual Communication do the same.

We need to empower our members with a knowledge of Freemasonry, and its principles and tenets. There are too many Freemasons who do not live their lives according to the obligations that they freely and voluntarily assumed at the sacred altar with their hands resting upon the Holy Bible. Why? I feel that it is because they do not remember their obligations. It is human nature that we will stray from those principles that we do not remember. It seems to me that all of our members need reminding and refreshing on their obligations frequently.

Freemasonry has been attacked, criticized and condemned because of the penalties related to the obligations. I understand that in some jurisdictions, a statement has been added before the obligations, to the effect that the penalties are symbolic only. It is ludicrous and naive to think that anyone truly believes that the stated penalties actually will be imposed in this modern day and age. If the penalties are symbolic only, then why don't we say so? Why should we give the public any reason to criticize, attack or condemn us? Much of our ritual is ancient. I love the beauty of the language. But much of it is symbolic only. And I feel that we need to make sure that everyone understands that.

Our goal in this, as in all that we do, in my opinion, should be to try to determine how we can improve what we are doing in order to do it better and more effectively.

I want to thank each and every one of the members of the Board of Custodians for all that they have accomplished this year. I am excited by the many great successes that we are poised to achieve.

Recommendations

I recommend that the members of the Board of Custodians visit as many subordinate Lodges as possible, to solicit the views and concerns of our members. I feel that for too long now our Boards, Commissions and Committees have been invisible to our members. The Grand Lodge Line Officers cannot do it all. I would like for the members of all of our Boards, Commissions and Committees to visit as many subordinate Lodges as possible, give them Masonic Education programs on the work being done, and answer any questions that our members may have. That would go a long

way toward ensuring that our members have confidence in the management and stewardship of our fraternity.

I recommend that the Grand Lodge study the matter of how to make the work of the Board of Custodians more a part of an agreed and coordinated program. In my opinion, in the past the Board of Custodians has tended to act too independently. I am concerned that the great bulk of its work takes place, and that the bulk of its records are maintained, off the premises of the Grand Lodge. In my opinion, that is neither proper nor desirable. However, the Board of Custodians is not unique in this regard. It is the manner in which some of our other most important functions are conducted (e.g., Lodge Service Commission, Special Activities Committee).

I recommend that the Grand Lodge study the matter of whether the Board of Custodians should be converted to a Ritual Committee, as in many other Grand Jurisdictions, and whether such a change would facilitate a greater coordination of the activities of the Grand Lodge, and the better management of its affairs and programs.

I recommend that the activities of the Board of Custodians, the District Deputy Grand Lecturers, and the Certified Lecturers, be subject to coordination by the Board of General Purposes, in order to more efficiently carry out the policies, objectives, plans and purposes approved or authorized by the Grand Lodge or the Grand Master, all as required by Reg. 28-3.3 of *The Code*.

I recommend that the ritual competition be continued.

I recommend that the delegates approve the change, to print the red (floor) work in English, with certain protections.

Board of Publications

The provisions governing the Board of Publications are contained in Reg. 34-20 of *The Code*. I think that it is important to bear in mind that both Reg. 34-20, as well as Reg. 27-1(C), refer to the Board as the *Board of Publications*. It is not the *Board of Publications of the North Carolina Mason*, as it frequently incorrectly is called.

For several years, I have been concerned about what I perceive to be a lack of policy for, and oversight of, *The North Carolina Mason*. Reg. 34-20 of *The Code*, which establishes the Board of Publications, states that it shall be the duty of the Board of Publications to *establish the policies of the publication*.... To my knowledge, that has not been done. Further, Reg. 34-20 also states that the Board *shall have charge and supervision of the publication*. To my knowledge, that is not the way in which we have been operating. Based on my observations—in 1998, especially—it was my opinion that the Board was not fulfilling its responsibilities.

I appointed W. Benjamin F. ("Benny") Smith, Jr., of Mount Lebanon No. 117 in Wilson, to serve on the Board and Chair it. Bro. Smith is a retired Highway Patrol Captain, who was Director of Public Affairs and Editor of their magazine, *Trooper*, for several years. Since his retirement, Bro. Benny has served as Director of Public Affairs for Sudan Temple, and as Editor of its *Red Fez* magazine. In my opinion, Bro. Smith has a wealth of experience and is eminently qualified to Chair this Board.

Due to a resignation, I also had another appointment, which I filled with Brother Don E. Bolden, of Bula No. 409 in Burlington. Brother Bolden is the Editor of the daily newspaper in Burlington, and also brought a great deal of knowledge and experience to the Board.

Establish publication policies

I first asked the Board to establish the policies of our publications, as required by Reg. 34-20.

At the present time, the only regular publication which the Grand Lodge has is *The North Carolina Mason*. However, I pointed out that the Board might recommend that we create other publications, and that if we do, then it would be up to the Board to establish their governing policies. I told the Board that it may want to concentrate initially on policies specifically to govern *The North Carolina Mason*, or, if it preferred, it might choose to establish more generic policies which also could apply to other publications as well without further revision. I left that to the discretion and decision of the Board.

I encouraged the Board to communicate with other Grand Lodges, as well as appendant Masonic bodies and Shrine Temples, to obtain copies of any publication policies that they may have. Most Scottish Rite Valleys have newsletters, and some even utilize a magazine format. Oasis Temple in Charlotte has an excellent newspaper, *Desert Dust*, and Sudan Temple has an excellent magazine, the *Red Fez*. The Board was free to contact any other organizations of which it might be aware.

I pointed out to the Board that we also have a number of other Masons in North Carolina who are engaged in the newspaper or printing business, and I asked them not to hesitate to identify and contact them. I agreed to designate or appoint any of them as consultants to the Board of Publications, if that was necessary or desirable.

I asked the Board, that once it had drafted its proposed policies, I would like for it to submit them to the Board of General Purposes for their review and approval, as well as the review and approval of the Grand Master.

Supervise our publications

I also asked the Board to have charge and supervision of our publications, also as required by Reg. 34-20

I asked the Board to review and approve the format and contents of every issue of *The North Carolina Mason*, and any other publication which we might create, before it was printed.

Zero-based review of publications

I also asked the Board of Publications to conduct a thorough, zero-based review of our approach to communicating with our members. I told the Board that I did not want us to continue blindly doing the same old things the way we have always done them, simply because that is the way that we have always done them. I asked the Board to take a completely fresh look at every aspect of our publications. I asked the Board to consider several questions.

Why do we have publications? What do we want to accomplish with our publications?

What should we call our publication? I personally feel that we should consider whether to change the name from "The North Carolina Mason" to "The North Carolina Freemason." I am concerned that there may be some confusion about our name. Other states, such as California, New York and Pennsylvania have titled their publication as the "Freemason." I am not saying that we should change our name, but I think that we should study it.

What is the best format to use? I also want the Board of Publications to study whether we should retain our newspaper format, or whether we should shift to a magazine format. The magazines published by California, New York and Pennsylvania—to all of which I subscribe—are very colorful and appealing. They easily can be placed in any waiting room for all to enjoy. The New Bern Scottish Rite and Sudan Temple both use a magazine format. I was not saying that we should change, but only that we should at least study it.

What is the best size to use? What is the best paper stock to use? How often should we publish? I would like for us to be able to communicate with our members at least once every month. I deeply regret that the periodicity of *The North Carolina Mason* was cut back from 12 issues to 6. There is so much that we need to share with our members, and we need to communicate with them even more often. I would like for us to have a larger paper, with more pages.

Should we accept paid advertising? If it is necessary to enable us to increase our publication frequency, I would be willing seriously to consider accepting paid advertisements for our medium. New Bern Scottish Rite, and Sudan and Oasis Temples accept paid advertising. I believe that the publication of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky does so. I do not recall seeing paid ads in the magazines from California, New York or Pennsylvania. Some have suggested that paid ads might be more trouble than they are worth, and that may be true. But again, I feel that we should at least study the matter.

I asked the Board to study what other Grand Jurisdictions and non-Masonic organizations are doing.

Goals and Objectives

I shared some goals and objectives for *The North Carolina Mason* for the year 1999-2000.

I asked the Board to have our paper feature the best Lodges and Districts. I am concerned that we are not focusing on and emphasizing the right things. This year, I have encouraged our Lodges and our members to become more active and involved in their local communities. I want them to become more active in volunteerism and community service. I want them to become more active in charity and relief. I feel very strongly that those are the types of things that we as Masons and as an organization should be doing. Therefore, I feel that we should publicize and emphasize the good things that individual Masons, Lodges and Districts are doing. I feel that we should feature those Masons, Lodges and Districts that are active in their local communities, sponsoring little league teams and conducting blood drives and serving their fellow citizens.

I asked the Board to institute a *Letters to the Editor* section for our paper. I feel that we should make available a portion of our publication for letters to the editor, in order to allow our members the opportunity to express themselves and comment on our activities. Yes, I know that some of them write things that should not be made public, but I am confident that we can deal with that effectively, while at the same time accommodating our members.

I asked the Board to include *pro* and *con* discussions of some of the issues with which we are confronted. That is done in several other publications which I receive, and I have always found it interesting and informative.

I asked the Board to try to publicize Masonic events and activities in our paper, as far in advance as possible. I always hate it when I hear about something interesting after it already has transpired. Our Lodges are always having degree conferrals, out-door degree conferrals, degree exchanges with Lodges from other states, and other interesting activities. These types of activities are of great interest to our members. They also promote Masonic Education and foster fellowship and brotherhood. We need to do all that we can to encourage these activities, and to let the brethren know about them in advance.

I asked the Board to publicize the Grand Master's schedule in our paper, and to publicize the meetings of the Boards, Commissions and Committees

of the Grand Lodge, and the Boards of Directors of our two Homes. In 1999, the dates of the winter educational seminars were not promulgated until about two weeks before the first one was scheduled. The dates were publicized so late that the first seminar had to be rescheduled to the end. I do not recall if the seminar dates were even published in *The North Carolina Mason*. I believe that they had to be mailed to the DDGM's, or perhaps the Lodges. I want better to inform our members of the activities of these groups, because they then will have more confidence in our operations and they will be more supportive, both financially and otherwise. My goal is to schedule all important events and activities, and to publicize the dates and other pertinent information as far in advance as possible.

I asked the Board to include in our paper articles featuring our Grand Lodge Officers. The members need to get to know them. And not just GLOs. There are many interesting brethren in our Grand Jurisdiction. I would like to know who is the oldest Mason in terms of chronological age, and who is the oldest Mason as measured by date of initiation or raising. I would like to know who is the oldest sitting Master. I would like to know who has been certified as a lecturer the longest. I would like to see us feature some of these brethren, and report on their activities, accomplishments and awards.

I asked the Board to include articles on Masonic Education, including the principles of Freemasonry and the lessons which we claim that we teach. Such topics will include "morality," "brotherly love," "charity," and on and on through the material contained in our ritual. We need to have at least one "Masonic Education" article in each issue of our paper.

I asked the Board to include an article on some aspect of Masonic history in each issue of our paper. There are so many interesting topics that we could never cover them all. I asked our Grand Historian to try to prepare some articles for us, but he cannot do it all alone. We will need to solicit articles from our members, or others. Perhaps our new Grand Archivist would be interested in contributing. No doubt, there are others.

I asked the Board to include Masonic poems in our paper. Our new Grand Poet Laureate, Dr. Dallas Herring, prepared one poem. Perhaps he could write others. I expect that there are other brethren who are interested in poetry. Perhaps they would like to submit some of their own original compositions. There are other poems of which we are aware, which we could share with our members.

I am a great believer in the power of poetry to inspire and move men to action.

I asked the Board to include Masonic obituaries in our paper. I am concerned that we fail to recognize and remember properly those of our members who die. I wish that we could include brief obituaries for them.

Conclusion

Upon inquiry it was determined that there were no written policies for the publications of the Grand Lodge, and at my request, and under Bro. Smith's leadership, a written policy was adopted. In my opinion, this policy does not go far enough. However, it is a good start.

I asked the Board to review each issue of *The North Carolina Mason* prior to its publication, but the Board—all except the Chairman—refused to do so. I brought the matter before the Board of General Purposes, and it was the consensus of that Board that pre-publication review was not appropriate. I continue to disagree.

W. Richard E. Carter, the Editor, has done a marvelous job with our paper. It is the best that we have ever had. It is much more attractive, and eminently more readable and enjoyable. It has won several prizes in various categories and competitions. However, I feel that too many of the decisions

affecting the paper, and its content, are made by the Editor alone, and I do not feel that is good in an organization like ours. Again, I feel that we need to ensure a coordinated effort in all of the activities of the Grand Lodge, in order more efficiently to carry out the established policies, objectives, plans and purposes, as required by Reg. 28-3.3.

The members of the Board of Publications and the Board of General Purposes, almost to a man, felt that pre-publication review of the paper constituted censorship. Again, I disagree. It would be censorship if the State of North Carolina attempted to dictate and control the content of the Raleigh newspaper, a privately owned enterprise. However, our paper is an *internal* organ, existing for the sole purpose of communicating with our members. I do not consider that it is censorship to have the policies of the publication established and approved by one or more entities—if for no other reason, than to ensure a coordinated effort and approach to the matters of our fraternity, as required by Reg. 28-3.3.

Earlier this year, there was an occurrence of profanity on the Tar Heel Mason network maintained by the Grand Lodge. Several brethren commented that any member who used profanity should immediately be removed. The funding for the Tar Heel Mason network is included in the budget for the Board of Publications. Therefore, I requested the Board to meet and discuss the matter, and to adopt policies governing the Tar Heel Mason network. The Chairman, Bro. Smith, agreed, but the rest of the Board declined to accept responsibility for the network, thereby leaving the operation without what I consider to be adequate supervision and control.

Late in my term, after meeting with a Brother Mason from Maryland, who is a CPA and an expert in tax-exempt organizations, it occurred to me that we should be able to move all or a portion of the expense of *The North Carolina Mason* out of the budget of the Grand Lodge—the fraternity—and to the budgets of one or more of our charities. Our paper originally began January 6, 1875, as *The Children's Friend*, published by our children's home in Oxford. It is critical, in my opinion, that we take advantage of all opportunities presented by the applicable tax and other laws, rules and regulations. It also is critical, in my opinion, that we do everything possible to control the costs and expenses of the operation of the Grand Lodge.

I want to thank W. Richard E. ("Ric") Carter, the Editor of *The North Carolina Mason*. Bro. Carter is extremely dedicated to our publication, and works very hard.

Except for the efforts of the Chairman, I have been very disappointed by the actions of the Board of Publications this year. I do not feel that it has been functioning in a manner that best serves the fraternity or its members.

Recommendations

I recommend that the Board of Publications establish adequately detailed policies for our publications, as required by Reg. 34-20.

I recommend that the Board of Publications exercise charge and supervision of our publications, also as required by Reg. 34-20, to include a pre-publication review of each issue.

I recommend that the Board of Publications continue the zero-based review of our publications that it has initiated, to try to ensure that we have the best publication possible, at the least cost.

I recommend that all or a portion of the cost of *The North Carolina Mason* be moved from the budget of the Grand Lodge—the fraternity—to the budget of one or more of our Masonic Charities.

I recommend that the activities of the Board of Publications, as well as the Editor of *The North Carolina Mason*, the Grand Lodge web page, and the Tar Heel Mason network, be subject to coordination by the Board of General

Purposes, in order more efficiently to carry out the policies, objectives, plans and purposes approved or authorized by the Grand Lodge or the Grand Master, all as required by Reg. 28-3.3 of *The Code*.

I recommend that the Board of Publications be converted to a Publications Committee, or Internal Communications Committee, as in many other Grand Jurisdictions, subject to the governance of the Grand Master and the Board of General Purposes, pursuant to Reg. 28-3.3.

I recommend that a survey be conducted of our membership, in order to determine what features they would like to see included in our publications.

COMMISSIONS

Lodge Service Commission

The provisions for the Lodge Service Commission are contained in Chapter 31 of *The Code*.

I appointed W. Dewey L. Keller, PDDGM, of Hibriten No. 262 in Lenoir, to Chair the Lodge Service Commission. Bro. Keller is an attorney who is experienced in personal injury law, from both the plaintiff's and the defense perspective, and workers compensation law. Additionally, he is a licensed contractor. With those qualifications, I know of no one in North Carolina better qualified to Chair the Lodge Service Commission.

One brother resigned to accept appointment to another position, and I appointed Brother Billy L. Farris, of Whetstone No. 515 in Bessemer City, to fill the term expiring in 2002. I appointed Brother Jerry L. Stapleford, of Doric No. 568, in New Bern, to a five-year term which expires in 2004.

Earlier this year, Bro. Keller found it necessary to resign as Chairman of the Lodge Service Commission, and I appointed W. Douglas L. Caudle, of Statesville No. 27, to succeed him on the Commission and as Chairman. Bro. Caudle assists in the management of a family business, and is very familiar with the interplay of the financial, insurance and other demands of the business world. He serves on the Board of Directors at our Masonic Home for Children, where he has provided excellent leadership as Chairman of the Personnel and Policy Committee. Bro. Caudle has impressed me in that he does what he says he will do. He is a very dedicated Mason, committed to Craft Masonry, and I am confident that he will do an excellent job as Chairman of the Lodge Service Commission.

Zero-based review

I asked the Lodge Service Commission to conduct a zero-based review of itself, including its purpose and organization, and its duties and responsibilities, and to make any recommendations that were deemed appropriate.

To the casual observer, it seems that the Lodge Service Commission functions primarily to assist the subordinate Lodges with construction projects or when they otherwise want to borrow money. Reg. 31-4.3 contains provisions pertaining to Lodge building programs. However, a review of *The Code* reveals that the Lodge Service Commission plays a much broader, and a much more critical role. Reg. 43-8 provides that subordinate Lodges shall not take certain actions without first obtaining the approval of the Lodge Service Commission. Those acts include:

- A. Pledging its credit;
- B. Leasing real estate for more than five years;
- C. Purchasing real estate;
- D. Becoming a party in a civil corporation;
- E. Amending or dissolving the civil charter of a subordinate Lodge; and,

F. Entering into a joint enterprise.

Reg. 31-4 also specifies additional powers and authority of the Lodge Service Commission. Those powers include:

- A. To authorize and approve the use of the Masonic name and emblem; and,
- B. To investigate any matter pertaining to a subordinate Lodge, not within the scope of any other group, referred to it by the Grand Master or the Grand Lodge.

In the discharge of these duties, the Lodge Service Commission has the authority to call for and examine any records of a subordinate Lodge which may be within the scope of its investigation.

It appears that the Lodge Service Commission has perhaps the broadest authority and discretion granted to any Board, Commission or Committee.

Promulgate written policies

Early in my term, in discussing the application of a subordinate Lodge, I asked the Chairman if the Lodge Service Commission had any written policies, and he indicated that it did not. I feel that the Lodge Service Commission definitely should have written policies, rules and regulations, and/or any other guidelines for the benefit and understanding of our Lodges and our brethren. Since the nature of the matters within the purview of the Lodge Service Commission is so varied, it would not be possible to promulgate written policies for all of them. However, I do feel that we need to have written policies governing the oversight of Lodge building projects.

First of all, we need to have written policies in order to explain to our members why we need to have a Lodge Service Commission, and what role it plays in trying to protect them. Also, if we had written policies, upon receiving inquiries or an application, the Chairman simply could provide a copy to the Lodge. That should answer a lot of questions, and should result in a savings of time on the part of the Chairman. Further, written policies will give our members the assurance that all Lodges and applications are being treated in the same manner.

As I have progressed through the Chairs since 1991, I have seen and heard many brethren make comments which were critical of the Grand Lodge, or its Boards, Commissions or Committees. In some instances, the criticism was well founded. However, in many cases the complaint simply resulted from a lack of understanding on the part of the Lodges or the brethren of what we were doing and why we were doing it. We should have written policies and guidelines, which we could use to inform and educate the craft. I am convinced that our brethren will understand and agree with what we are trying to do, if only we will take the time and make the effort to explain it to them.

For these reasons, I asked the Lodge Service Commission to promulgate a set of written policies, rules, regulations and/or guidelines, outlining, describing and explaining the procedures that it follows, and why, for distribution to our Lodges and our members.

Explanation of applicable laws

I asked the Lodge Service Commission to compile a list of the federal, state and local laws, rules and regulations which govern or affect our subordinate Lodges in its areas of responsibility (e.g., Workers Compensation laws, State and local Building Codes), and to provide a summary and explanation to our Lodges and our members. Again, we need to explain to our members what we are doing, but, more important, why we are doing it. Many times, we have no choice. I am convinced that our brethren will understand and accept that if it is explained to them.

Compilation of information

As I have progressed through the chairs since 1991, I have come to the inescapable conclusion that our fraternity is *real estate poor*. By that I mean that many of our Lodges own real property that they cannot afford to maintain properly.

There is room for debate as to the optimum number of members of a subordinate Lodge. Many brethren argue for larger Lodges as more efficient financially, and many argue for smaller ones as more conducive of brotherhood and fellowship. Regardless of the outcome of that debate, in my opinion the smaller Lodges have no need for their own individual buildings. Rather, they should share common facilities, and the expense of maintaining them, which would result in greater efficiencies and greater savings. Even the larger Lodges, which, because of the larger membership and resulting dues income, might be able to afford to maintain their own separate buildings, should consider the efficiencies and savings of sharing common facilities.

Examples of both abound. In Asheville, Charlotte, Greensboro, Raleigh and some of our larger communities, several Lodges share common facilities, often with appendant Masonic organizations. On the other hand, here in my County, which comprises the 12th Masonic District, we have five Lodges in five different communities. The largest one probably has about 100 members, and the smallest one probably has only about 40. We probably do not have 500 Masons in all of Duplin County. In my opinion, we certainly do not need, and cannot afford, five separate Lodge buildings.

I am concerned that too many of our subordinate Lodges have no written budget, as required by Reg. 61-3.2 of *The Code*. I am concerned that too many of our subordinate Lodges have annual dues which provide insufficient income to enable them to maintain themselves and discharge all of their duties and obligations, as required by Reg. 77-1 of *The Code*. I am concerned that too many of our subordinate Lodges have insufficient savings or financial reserves to enable them to respond appropriately to unexpected contingencies and emergencies, such as repair or replacement of roofs, heating and air conditioning, and similar occurrences.

In the past, we have requested the District Deputy Grand Masters to obtain and provide in their reports of their official visits certain information pertaining to the financial condition of the Lodges. This information has included the following:

- A. Amount in savings;
- B. Building fund;
- C. DDGM's assessment of financial condition (entirely subjective);
- D. Annual dues; and,
- E. Initiation fee.

This information is helpful in assessing the financial security of a subordinate Lodge, but it does not go far enough.

Most of our subordinate Lodge officers are good men, who are doing the best that they can, but many of them simply do not know what to do or how to do it. I feel that the Grand Lodge, through its officers, Boards, Commissions and Committees, needs to do everything that it can to support and assist our members and our subordinate Lodges, and to ensure that they are operating on a sound business basis and have the financial security required. A review of *The Code* shows that such responsibility clearly falls within the area of responsibility of the Lodge Service Commission.

I feel that at a minimum, we need the following information on each subordinate Lodge:

- A. A copy of the Deed or other instrument by which the Lodge acquired title to its real property;
- B. A copy of any map or plat of the Lodge property, together with a copy of the legal description;
- C. A copy of the County and/or City/Town tax appraisal;
- D. A copy of any other appraisal of fair market value;
- E. A copy of any other type of appraisal or review, such as what I understand is called a "market analysis," which might indicate the value of the Lodge's real property;
- F. A copy of the Lodge's insurance policy and declarations page;
- G. A copy of any insurance appraisal of the value of the Lodge's real and personal property;
- H. A copy of the Lodge's annual operating budget;
- I. Detailed information on the Lodge's costs of repairing and maintaining its real and personal property; and,
- J. Detailed information on the Lodge's savings accounts or other cash reserves.

No doubt, there is other information that would be helpful in obtaining a clear picture of a Lodge's financial condition.

I feel that we need to know the county and city/town appraised values because we need to know how much *ad valorem* real and personal property taxes our Lodges would have to pay if we were to lose our tax exempt status. I would like to be able to share that information with our brethren. I think that we all would be shocked by the answer.

I feel that we need to review the insurance policies and declarations pages because we need to be able to determine if the Lodges are adequately covered and protected against the various types of loss that are possible.

Much of this information already may be available in the files of the Lodge Service Commission, at least for those subordinate Lodges that have made applications in connection with building projects or for other reasons. The information pertaining to insurance probably is available in the files of the agency which administers the Grand Lodge insurance program.

I certainly would not expect the members of the Lodge Service Commission to try to collect all of this information. It would require too much effort, would take too long, and would involve too much expense. However, the DDGMs could be asked to obtain the desired information from each of their Lodges, and to forward it to the Grand Lodge Executive Offices. That probably is the most logical approach to take.

Conclusion

I feel that the members of all of our Boards, Commissions and Committees should visit as many subordinate Lodges as possible, to explain the work being done, and to answer any questions that our members may have. That would go a long way toward ensuring that our members have confidence in the management and stewardship of our fraternity.

In the past, many of our Boards, Commissions and Committees have been viewed by our members as the *enemy*, intent only on imposing obstacles to the Lodges in their efforts and in creating difficulties for them. That has not been correct. However, it has been what many of our members have perceived. We have done an inadequate job of explaining to our members what the applicable requirements are, and why. Again, I am convinced that if we will only explain things to our members, they will understand and accept them.

The compilation of the real property, tax, insurance and other information

necessary to help our Lodges ensure that they are operating in a sound business manner, naturally overlaps into the responsibilities of several of our entities. For example, the Special Committee on Insurance also is endeavoring to compile data on our Lodges' insurance coverages, in order to try to help them ensure that they are adequately protected. Also, of necessity under our present structure, the work of the Special Activities Committee intrudes into this area. It appears that we need to review our needs and the various duties which we have assigned, and perhaps to engage in some reorganization or reassignment of responsibilities.

Recommendations

I recommend that the members of the Lodge Service Commission visit as many of our subordinate Lodges as possible, and solicit the views and concerns of our members.

I recommend that the Lodge Service Commission continue the zero-based review of itself and its responsibilities.

I recommend that the Lodge Service Commission continue the work that it has begun to put its policies in writing, and to distribute them to our subordinate Lodges.

I recommend that the Lodge Service Commission continue the work that it has begun to compile a list of the laws, rules and regulations applicable to our Lodges within its areas of responsibility, prepare a brief explanation of each, and distribute them to our subordinate Lodges.

I recommend that the Lodge Service Commission continue the work that it has begun to accumulate the real property, tax value, appraised value, insurance and other information necessary to help our subordinate Lodges to ensure that they are adequately covered and protected against the various types of loss that are possible.

I recommend that the Grand Master, Grand Lodge Officers, and/or Board of General Purposes review our current organizational structure, and recommend legislation to effect any necessary changes or reassignment of duties and responsibilities that may be in order.

Code Commission

Chapter 33 of *The Code* of 1995 contains the provisions pertaining to The Code Commission. Reg. 33-2.1 provides that the duties of The Code Commission are to prepare and supervise the printing and distribution of all amendments to *The Code*. Those responsibilities seem to me to be more clerical in nature, and could be accomplished by a secretary. In my mind, they certainly are not in keeping with what I would expect to be required of a body holding the exalted status of a Commission. I feel that The Code Commission should be expanded in membership, and that its role also be expanded.

Reg. 33-2.2 provides that The Code Commission also shall perform such other duties as may be assigned to it from time to time by the Grand Lodge. Reg. 13-2.14 provides that the Grand Master shall exercise the executive functions of the Grand Lodge when it is not in session. Therefore, I asked The Code Commission to begin work on a general revision of *The Code*, to be brought before the delegates at a subsequent Annual Communication for approval.

I appointed W. T. Bruce Boyette, of Wilson No. 712, in Wilson, to Chair *The Code* Commission. Bro. Boyette, a Past Potentate of Sudan Temple, is the retired City Manager for the City of Wilson, and is well-versed in municipal law and the purposes, organization and contents of a city code or code of rules.

Zero-based review

I asked The Code Commission to review all of the provisions of *The Code* which pertain to The Code Commission, and make any recommendations deemed appropriate. Among other things, I wanted it to review its duties and composition: What responsibilities should it have? How many members should it have? What is the optimum term for members? What expertise should we look for in members?

I asked The Code Commission to initiate a zero-based review of our Masonic law. I wanted The Code Commission to review our governing documents, including our Charter, Constitution and Regulations, and make any recommendations deemed appropriate.

I asked The Code Commission to review the organization of *The Code* in its entirety, with a view toward trying to ensure that it is arranged in the most logical, easy-to-use manner possible, and also trying to improve the Table of Contents and the Index. I have difficulty finding things in *The Code*. The various chapters and regulations do not flow in a logical, consistent manner. Provisions are not where logic indicates they should be. The Table of Contents is inadequate, and the Index is woefully deficient. Much improvement was accomplished by the *ad hoc* group that worked on a reorganization in 1995. However, I believe that everyone who uses *The Code* will readily agree that there is much room for improvement.

I asked The Code Commission to review the contents and specific provisions of *The Code* in its entirety, with a view toward trying to eliminate some of them so as to simplify and shorten *The Code*. I never have been satisfied with *The Code*. It seems to me that it contains way too many rules. I suspect that the vast majority of the members of our craft feel that way too. I am a member of a large number of organizations, and I have never seen any other group that has so many rules. Even the regulations of the State Bar, which licenses and regulates attorneys, are not as extensive as our CODE. The Resolution which authorized the 1995 Revision limited it to organizational changes only. There were no changes in substance or content. Again, I believe that everyone who uses *The Code* will readily agree that there is much room for improvement. In my opinion, we desperately need to eliminate many of our provisions, and simplify *The Code*.

Conclusion

Simply stated, I asked The Code Commission to review and study all aspects of *The Code*, with a view toward trying to simplify and improve the contents and organization of *The Code*, and to make any and all recommendations deemed appropriate.

Understandably, Bro. Boyette, the Chairman, was reluctant to begin such a tremendous task as the one which I asked of him, and to devote the time and energy to it, without being assured that The Code Commission would be asked by my successors to continue its efforts. There was some difference of opinion as to whether a general revision of *The Code* should be undertaken all at one time, or whether we should tackle it incrementally. There also was some difference of opinion as to whether the responsibility of a general revision should be given to *The Code* Commission, currently consisting of only three members, or to a larger *ad hoc* Commission or group, as was done in 1995.

At my request, Bro. Boyette attended the meetings of the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, chaired by Past Grand Master Richard G. ("Rick") Moore. I feel that it was extremely beneficial to have the Chairman of The Code Commission present at the meetings of the Jurisprudence Committee. Out of these discussions have come a number of recommendations and proposed legislation to expand the role and function of *The Code* Commis-

sion, and to enable it to assist members in drafting proposed amendments to *The Code*, among other duties.

As a result of these shared experiences, much progress has been made toward achieving that degree of coordination in the activities of the Grand Lodge that is required by Reg. 28-3.3.

Recommendations

I recommend that The Code Commission continue the work that it has begun to review the provisions of *The Code* which pertain to The Code Commission, particularly its composition and responsibilities, and make any recommendations deemed appropriate.

I recommend that The Code Commission continue the work that it has begun to conduct a zero-based review of our Masonic law, particularly our governing documents, including our Charter, Constitution and Regulations, and make any recommendations deemed appropriate.

I recommend that The Code Commission continue the work that it has begun to review the organization of *The Code* in its entirety, with a view toward trying to ensure that it is arranged in the most logical, easy-to-use manner possible, and also trying to improve the Table of Contents and the Index.

I recommend that The Code Commission continue the work that it has begun to review the contents and specific provisions of *The Code* in its entirety, with a view toward trying to eliminate some of them so as to simplify and shorten *The Code*.

I recommend that The Code Commission be expanded, both in the number of members and in its duties and responsibilities.

COMMITTEES

Committee on Masonic Education

The primary provisions pertaining to the Committee on Masonic Education are found in Chapter 30 of *The Code*. Its duties, contained in Reg. 30-5, basically include all aspects of Masonic Education.

I re-appointed W. Daniel P. Weatherington, of Wilson No. 712, in Wilson, to the Committee for a three-year term expiring in 2002, and I also appointed him as Chairman of the Committee. Bro. Weatherington has demonstrated his interest in and commitment to the cause of expanded Masonic Education. Further, he is an avid student of Freemasonry.

The late Brother Allen Roberts of Virginia, a respected Masonic authority, noted that our ritual makes members, but that it takes Masonic Education to make Masons. Some Lodges have excellent Masonic Education programs. Sadly, too many Lodges do not offer any Masonic Education programs. There really is no reason not to do so. A great deal of material and information is available. Because of our Grand Lodge's support of the Masonic Service Association, every Lodge receives a copy of the *Short Talk Bulletin*. That provides at least one Masonic Education program each month.

I feel that the problem is one of poorly trained leadership. Hopefully, our Masonic Leadership Development Program will remedy that deficiency. However, I feel that we can and must do a much better job of making information available to our Lodges in a well-organized and readily usable format.

Zero-Based Review

I asked the Committee to conduct a zero-based review of all aspects of

Masonic Education in our Grand Jurisdiction. Specific questions included: What have we been doing? How have we been doing it? Is it accomplishing its purpose? Do we need to be doing something differently? How can we be doing it better or more effectively?

Standard curriculum considered

I asked the Committee to consider the adoption of a standard curriculum, whereby all of the basic topics of Freemasonry can be covered in a given period of time. Most Church Sunday School programs utilize a standard curriculum, by which they are enabled to cover a series of topics in a three year period. Perhaps we should consider something like this for our Masonic Education program in North Carolina. A schedule could be devised whereby all of our various topics could be covered in a given period of time. Many topics readily come to mind from our ritual. In most Lodges, the only time we hear these lessons is during the conferring of the degrees. Except for Certified Lecturers, most of us do not even know the words. And too few of us understand the real meanings or lessons they teach.

Monthly programs provided

We are competing for our members' time with the television and all of the other attractions that are available in today's society. After eating a good dinner at home, most of them simply will not get up out of their easy chairs and put their shoes back on to come to Lodge just to hear the Secretary read the Minutes, pay the bills, and go back home. We must offer our members interesting and exciting programs to make their attendance at our meetings worthwhile. When I conducted a Masonic Opinion Survey in 1997, 100% of the brethren who responded indicated that they wanted more Masonic Education programs in their Lodges!

I asked the Masonic Education Committee to develop a program whereby at least two Masonic Education programs would be provided to each Lodge every month. Under the very capable and dedicated leadership of Bro. Weatherington, the Committee has performed beyond all reasonable expectations. The members of the Committee wrote a coordinated series of Masonic Education programs. Each pamphlet contained six programs, one each for an average of two stated communications each month. The first pamphlet featured the First Degree, and asked, "*How Does It Affect Me?*" The second pamphlet focused on the Second Degree, and asked, "*What Can It Do For Me?*" The third pamphlet, entitled "*Somewhere A Man is Searching*", contains a variety of Masonic topics.

Entitled the Lodge Night Program, copies were mailed to every Master and Secretary. Sadly, some Masters were too complacent and disinterested to use this program. However, in those which did, the response has been extremely positive and overwhelming. The program has been a huge success.

I would like to acknowledge and thank Bro. Weatherington and the other members of the Masonic Education Committee for their dedicated work and great success this year.

The North Carolina Mason

I asked the Committee to ensure that at least one article on Masonic Education was included in each issue of *The North Carolina Mason* this year. I would like for the Grand Historian to prepare at least one article for each issue of *The North Carolina Mason*. I further would like for the Grand Chaplain to prepare at least one article or column for each issue of *The North Carolina Mason*. I would like to encourage our members to submit articles for inclusion in *The North Carolina Mason*, similar to what is done in the Southern Jurisdiction with the *Scottish Rite Journal*. I may be wrong,

but I suspect that there are a number of brethren in our Grand Jurisdiction who would just love to prepare articles if only they were given the opportunity to do so.

Masonic Education Resources

There are a number of Masonic and Masonic-related research groups such as Allied Masonic Degrees, Rosicrucians, Scottish Rite Research Society, the Quatuor Coronati Lodge Correspondence Circle, and The Philalethes Society, to name a few. There also are a number of web pages and other sites on the internet where information on Masonic topics is available. At my request, for the information of the brethren the Masonic Education Committee this year has submitted articles to *The North Carolina Mason* featuring some of these.

Speakers Bureau

I asked the Committee to make recommendations as to how we can operate a Grand Lodge Speakers Bureau as a means of enhancing Masonic Education in our Grand Jurisdiction. Such a program would be extremely beneficial for our Lodges all across the state. I think that, logically, it should be developed and administered by the Masonic Education Committee, and Lodges needing programs could call the Grand Lodge offices for referrals.

North Carolina Lodge of Research

I asked the Committee to make recommendations as to how we could resurrect the North Carolina Lodge of Research which functioned so effectively here in the 1930s and 40s.

Several grand jurisdictions have Lodges of Research. I am a member of the Southern California Research Lodge. For my annual dues of \$15.00, every month I receive a thick packet of extremely interesting and educational material, frequently containing information from Lodges and Grand Lodges from around the world.

I know that North Carolina used to have a Lodge of Research, and that it was extremely active and productive. According to information collected by Brother David Hargett, of Monroe, a Dispensation was granted for North Carolina Lodge of Research No. 666 on November 7, 1930, and the Charter was issued on January 21, 1931. Those two dates are confirmed by the historical table of Lodges which appears in the 1995 *Annual Proceedings*. Further according to Brother Hargett's information, the Lodge was consecrated on February 10, 1931.

According to the information provided by Brother Hargett, this Lodge had a roving charter which permitted it to travel over the State at the request of other Lodges. I have heard of its publication, "NOCALORE," which apparently was well-regarded, although I have never seen a copy. I understand that they are somewhat rare. Again according to the information from Brother Hargett, there were eleven issues from 1931 to 1949.

Again according to the 1995 historical table, the Charter of Lodge No. 666 was arrested December 31, 1954. However, I do not know any of the details of this matter.

I do know that a great number of our members are extremely interested in Masonic research and writing, and I would like for us to have a research lodge in North Carolina. I am satisfied that there is sufficient interest among our brethren. I think that it would be desirable to have it primarily located in Raleigh, but with a *roving charter* or otherwise to allow it to be a *travelling Lodge*, so as to be able to hold its meetings around the State.

Books and materials available

I asked the Committee to make recommendations as to how we can establish and operate a gift shop from which interested brethren may purchase Masonic books and other materials. It could be housed at the Grand Lodge offices in Raleigh, and perhaps could be staffed by volunteers. We could obtain the necessary business or other licenses to permit us to purchase at wholesale prices, and then pass the savings on to our members.

Books on Masonic topics are available from a number of commercial sources, but they frequently are expensive. Macoy Publishing and Masonic Supply Company in Richmond, Virginia, offers a 20-25% discount on orders of five or more of one volume. The Southern California Research Lodge, of which I am a member, and which I mentioned above, has an outstanding program of offering Masonic books to its members at a very reasonable price. Quite frankly, I do not know how they can sell them so inexpensively. Several of our Scottish Rite Valleys operate gift shops.

Any profits could be applied to support our Grand Lodge Library and Archives. We could add more volumes to our Library, and make them available to our members by mail like a lending library. Making more Masonic books and other materials available to our brethren would further enhance our Masonic Education program.

Grand Lodge Library

I asked the Committee to make recommendations with regard to the organization and operation of the Grand Lodge Library.

Grand Lodge Archives

I asked the Committee to make recommendations with regard to the organization and operation of the Grand Lodge Archives.

Grand Lodge Museum

I asked the Committee to make recommendations with regard to the organization and operation of a Masonic Museum in North Carolina.

Winter Area Masonic Education Seminars

I asked the Committee to move immediately to plan the schedule for the Winter Area Masonic Education Seminars which we offer in January-March. I asked the Committee to select the dates and the sites for the programs, and to publicize this information well in advance, in order to allow our brethren to make their plans.

I asked the Committee in selecting the sites to please be certain to coordinate well with the local DDGMs and other officers, allowing them to help select the sites and dates, in order to avoid any conflicts with their plans.

I wanted to begin publishing the dates and sites in *The North Carolina Mason* by early Fall.

Although I think that it is an excellent idea to address the pending amendments to *The Code*, I do not want these seminars to focus solely on them. I think that we are missing an excellent opportunity for Masonic Education if we do.

I also want to include the Grand Lodge Line Officers as speakers and presenters to the extent possible.

Conclusion

I cannot overemphasize the importance that I give to Masonic Education. In my personal opinion, it is more important than our ritual. It is only

through an active, effective Masonic Education program that we can turn members into Masons.

Recommendations

I recommend that the Committee continue the work that it has begun on a zero-based review of all aspects of Masonic Education in our Grand Jurisdiction.

I recommend that the Committee continue the work that it has begun to develop and implement a standard curriculum for Masonic Education in this Grand Jurisdiction.

I recommend that the Committee continue to submit to *The North Carolina Mason* articles on Masonic Education topics.

I recommend that the Committee continue to submit to *The North Carolina Mason* articles on Masonic Education resources, including Masonic research organizations, as well as web sites and other information via the internet.

I recommend that the Committee continue to develop a Speakers Bureau for this Grand Jurisdiction.

I recommend that the Committee continue its efforts to revive the North Carolina Lodge of Research, or to Charter a new one, located in Raleigh, but as a *travelling Lodge*, so that it can meet around the State.

I recommend that the Committee continue its efforts to make Masonic Education books and materials available to our members at the lowest possible cost.

I recommend that the Committee continue its efforts to support and improve our Grand Lodge Library.

I recommend that the Committee continue its efforts to support and improve our Grand Lodge Archives.

I recommend that the Committee continue its efforts to establish and develop a Masonic Museum in this Grand Jurisdiction.

I recommend that the Committee continue its sponsorship of the Winter Area Masonic Education Seminars that we have offered our members for several years, and that the dates and locations be selected and publicized to the membership at least four (4) months in advance. Better yet, if we are to continue to offer the Winter Seminars, or similar seminars at another time during the year, I recommend that we *institutionalize* them, and make them a regular part of our Grand Lodge annual program of activities and events, so that all of our members will know from year to year when they will be held, and perhaps even where they will be held.

Committee on Subordinate Lodge Special Activities

Reg. 32-4.1 provides that the Committee on Subordinate Lodge Special Activities has the duty, power and authority to investigate any matter, subject or thing pertaining to fund raising activities by subordinate Lodges. Reg. 32-4.2 provides that the Committee may adopt such rules as may be necessary to govern fund raising activities as provided in Reg. 43-12.3.B. Reg. 43-12 provides that subordinate Lodges may conduct fund-raising activities for Masonic Charity, in the manner provided therein. Blanket permission is granted by *The Code* for the types of fund-raising activities specified. For other desired activities, Lodges may seek approval from the Committee.

Reg. 32-4.4 provides that the Committee will consider and act upon all applications of Lodges or Brethren in connection with fund-raising activities. Reg. 32-4.5 provides that the Committee may call for and examine any

record, book or account of any subordinate Lodge within the scope of its investigation.

I appointed W. Paul L. Whitfield, of Meridian No. 728, in Charlotte, to a three-year term on the Committee, expiring in 2002. Bro. Whitfield, a Past Potentate of Oasis Temple, is an attorney in Charlotte. I know Bro. Whitfield to be a critical thinker, who takes a very careful approach to the matters under his consideration.

One brother resigned from the Committee to accept another position, and I appointed W. John M. Burchfield, of Black Mountain No. 663, in Black Mountain, to fill the term expiring in 2001. Bro. Burchfield is a supervisor in law enforcement in Buncombe County, and has done an absolutely outstanding job as District Deputy Grand Master in the 61st Masonic District. He is both enthusiastic and energetic, and he also is an extremely dedicated Mason who greatly desires to help. Late in my term, W. Charles Ray Thomas, of Gastonia No. 369, in Gastonia, resigned as Chairman of the Committee, due to his imminent election as Grand Commander of Knights Templar in North Carolina, and the increased demands on him which that office would entail, and I appointed Bro. Burchfield to succeed him as Chairman.

From my past discussions with them. I know that both Bro. Whitfield and Bro. Burchfield share my views on our fund-raising program, and my commitment to try to assist and support our subordinate Lodges.

The primary provisions pertaining to the Committee on Subordinate Lodge Special Activities are contained in Chapter 32 of *The Code*.

Zero-based review

I asked the Committee to conduct a zero-based review of the Committee and all aspects of the fund-raising program and activities of the Grand Lodge and the subordinate Lodges, with special attention to the issue of our various tax exemptions. Some questions were: Do we need a Committee on Subordinate Lodge Special Activities? Why? Could we accomplish the same purposes with another entity? Do we need a Board or Commission? How many members should there be? What expertise should we look for in members? What is the optimum term for members? Basically, I asked the Committee to review everything that falls within its area of responsibility. What are we doing? Why are we doing it? How are we doing it? How can we do it more effectively? How can we improve it?

I asked the Committee to review the basic issue of fund-raising activities, and to make any recommendations deemed appropriate. Some questions are: Do we need a program to regulate Subordinate Lodge fund-raising activities? Why? How should it be organized? What types of fund-raising activities should be allowed? Why? How should they be structured? What types of fund-raising activities should be prohibited? Why? What are other Grand Jurisdictions doing? How are they doing it? What can we learn from other jurisdictions? The bottom line is that I wanted the Committee to try to make recommendations as to how we might improve this program and give our subordinate Lodges more flexibility in this important area.

I asked the Committee to review all of the provisions in *The Code* which pertain to our fund-raising activities, and to make any recommendations deemed appropriate.

Promulgate written guidelines

I asked the Committee to prepare written guidelines setting forth a simple, easy-to-understand explanation for the use of our Lodges and our brethren.

Articles in *The North Carolina Mason*

I asked the Committee to prepare one or more articles on our permitted—and prohibited—fund-raising activities, to be published in *The North Carolina Mason*. I wanted to do this in order to inform and educate our members as to what is proper and what is improper. I fear that we have provided too little concrete guidance in the past.

Identify applicable tax laws, rules and regulations

I asked the Committee to try to identify and explain to our members the various tax laws, rules and regulations that govern or are otherwise applicable to our fund-raising activities.

Since coming into the Grand Lodge Line in 1991, I have heard numerous comments critical of the Grand Lodge for its restrictions on fund-raising activities. The standard explanation that I have heard is that our regulations are for the protection of our Lodges and our members, by ensuring their compliance with the various tax laws, rules and regulations, and to protect our various tax exemptions.

As I understand it, as a non-profit organization, our Grand Lodge—a fraternity—enjoys three types of tax exemptions.

First, we are exempt from the payment of *ad valorem* taxes on our real estate (land and buildings) to the counties and cities or towns in which our Lodges and other Masonic facilities are located.

We have no accurate data on the total value of all of the Masonic real estate in North Carolina, but it would be quite considerable. If we were to lose our tax exempt status, and our Lodges and other bodies were forced to pay taxes on their property, many of them would not be able to afford to do so. It is absolutely critical that we protect and preserve this tax exemption by all means possible.

Second, as I understand it, we are exempt from the payment of state and federal sales taxes on the meals and other items that we sell. While not as significant as the property taxes, this total would not be inconsequential. Again, we need to protect and preserve this tax exemption by all means possible.

Third, I have been told that we are exempt from the payment of state and federal income taxes on the dues which we receive from our members. While this probably is not as critical as the real property tax exemption, it, too, is significant. Once again, it is vital that we protect and preserve this tax exemption by all means possible.

I have been told that the limitations set out in Reg. 43-12 are the result of the state's guidelines on the sale of food. I have been told that we can have two food sale activities per year, but that they must involve two different types of food. In other words, we can have one barbecue chicken dinner and one fried chicken dinner each year, or one barbecue pork dinner and one fried fish dinner, but we cannot have two of the same kind. In my meetings, brethren have asked me why we are thus limited, when other organizations do not seem to be. I would like to obtain some definite answers.

Written report

I asked the Committee to prepare a written report which outlines each and every Federal, State or local tax law, rule or regulation that applies to our fraternity. I wanted this report to include a listing of each such provision, and a full and complete citation to the applicable authority. I also want this report to include an explanation of each such provision, together with examples of both prohibited and permissible activities.

None of the members of the Committee is a tax attorney nor a CPA.

None of them has any special tax knowledge or expertise. The issues involving our tax exempt status and our fund-raising activities are absolutely critical to our fraternity, and our continued survival and success. We absolutely must identify all of the right questions, and then obtain all of the correct answers. For that reason, I encouraged the Committee to obtain the assistance of legal or other tax professionals to support its efforts.

Brother Phil Blank, a member of East Gate No. 692 in Charlotte, but now residing in Maryland, called me, and volunteered to assist the Committee. Being retired from the IRS, Bro. Blank is an invaluable resource for us. W. L. David Moser, of Excelsior No. 261 in Charlotte, is a retired IRS agent and previously has served on this Committee. Further, Brother Paul Parker, also of Charlotte, is another retired IRS agent, and should be able to assist this Committee.

Conclusion

Under the recent leadership of Bro. Burchfield as Chairman, the Committee has promulgated a pamphlet which contains the basic rules for fund-raising activities. I know that under his continued leadership, the Committee will make great progress in resolving the issues surrounding our fund-raising program and activities.

In a conversation with Senior Grand Warden William L. Mills, III, in February 2000, he indicated that he assisted Grand Master Eddie Stiles in preparing the legislation which created the Special Activities Committee. Bro. Mills further indicated that it was the original intent to allow Lodges to conduct one fund-raiser per year for the non-routine maintenance of their property, provided that certain conditions were met.

I have contacted Brother Robert A. Lyons, in Maryland, who is a CPA and a nationally-recognized expert on tax-exempt organizations. I am working with Bro. Lyons, and if it is permitted by the applicable tax laws, rules and regulations, I plan to issue an opinion interpreting Reg. 77-1, and further to offer proposed legislation to amend *The Code* to make this change a part of our Masonic law.

Recommendations

I recommend that the Special Activities Committee continue the work that it has begun for a zero-based review of all aspects of our fund-raising program.

I recommend that the Special Activities Committee continue the work that it has begun to prepare and distribute to the members and the Lodges a pamphlet containing written guidelines on the fund-raising program.

I recommend that the Special Activities Committee continue the work that it has begun to provide articles on our fund-raising program to *The North Carolina Mason*.

I recommend that the Special Activities Committee continue the work that it has begun to identify the tax and other laws, rules and regulations that govern or otherwise are applicable to our fund-raising program, and to prepare a written report of the same, and distribute it to our members and our Lodges for their education and information.

I recommend that the Special Activities Committee continue the work that it has begun to liberalize the requirements and guidelines of our fund-raising program, in order to provide the greatest support and assistance possible to our Lodges in their fund-raising activities.

I recommend that the duties and responsibilities assigned to the various Boards, Commissions and Committees be reviewed, in order to eliminate any overlap or duplication of efforts, and also in order to determine if any changes are necessary or desirable.

I recommend that the number of members on the Committee be increased to nine.

I recommend that if the Committee is to continue with its present responsibilities, it be given Commission status.

I recommend that legislation be offered to clarify the requirements and guidelines of our fund-raising program and activities.

Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence

The primary provisions pertaining to the duties and responsibilities of the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence are found in Reg. 34-2. To the Committee must be referred all proposals to amend the written law of the Grand Lodge, so that it may see that all such proposals do not conflict with the Constitution of the Grand Lodge.

I asked Most Worshipful Richard G. ("Rick") Moore, Past Grand Master, to Chair the Jurisprudence Committee. To it I appointed other extremely knowledgeable and dedicated Masons, with expertise in both civil and Masonic law.

I asked the Committee to conduct a zero-based review of itself, and all aspects of its duties and responsibilities. In the past, this Committee has tended to meet in January, to review the proposed amendments to *The Code*, and then again in April in conjunction with the Annual Communication. I feel that this is one of the very most important Committees that we have in our Grand Lodge, and that its role should be expanded and it should be given greater duties and responsibilities.

I asked the Committee to review the Opinions issued by the Grand Masters in the past, and to update *Andrews' Digest*, which has not been revised since it was published about 1923. Since a new CODE was adopted in 1948, M. W. Moore wisely recommended that, in the interest of time, the Committee should concentrate on the Opinions issued in the years since then, and that as time allowed, it would review the Opinions issued in the years between 1923 and 1948.

I asked the Committee to meet earlier in the year than it had been meeting in the past, so that it might complete its review of

the proposed amendments to *The Code*, and share its recommendations with the membership earlier than in the past.

I also asked the members of the Committee to attend the Winter Area Masonic Education Seminars, and to present the materials pertaining to the proposed amendments.

Conclusion

Under the leadership of Past Grand Master Moore, the Committee has functioned superbly. Its members have been extremely dedicated to their duties, and they have worked with great efficiency. I want to thank them for their diligent efforts and the success which they have enjoyed this year.

Recommendations

I recommend that the Jurisprudence Committee continue the work that it has begun to update and revise *Andrews' Digest* of the Opinions of the Grand Masters.

I recommend that the Jurisprudence Committee continue to meet at various times throughout the year, in order to accomplish its work and share its recommendations with the membership.

I recommend that the members of the Jurisprudence Committee continue to participate in the Winter Area Masonic Education Seminars, and

to present the materials pertaining to proposed amendments to *The Code*.

I recommend that the role and function of the Jurisprudence Committee be expanded, and that it be given increased duties and responsibilities.

Committee on Finance

The primary provisions pertaining to the duties and responsibilities of the Committee on Finance are found in Reg. 34-5, although various financial matters are discussed throughout *The Code*, notably in Chapters 5, 15, 16, 20, 21, 22, 34, 50 and 61.

In determining my appointees to the Finance Committee, my goal was to select some of the best men in the fraternity with experience and expertise in the areas of business, finance and accounting. I appointed W. Daniel R. Bishop, of Crown Point No. 708 in Greenville; W. R. Philip Presley, of Mount Hermon No. 118 in Asheville; and Bro. Daniel C. Rice, of Bula No. 409 in Burlington. Bro. Presley is a very successful businessman in Asheville, and has served on the Boards of Directors of both of our Homes. Bro. Rice is an alumnus of our children's home, and is a very successful businessman, with stores in Greensboro, Raleigh and other sites. He also has served on the Boards of both of our Homes. Bro. Bishop is an accountant, and is the Comptroller for East Carolina University. I am confident that these men, and the other members, are extremely well-qualified and capable of carrying out all of the duties and responsibilities of our Finance Committee. When a vacancy occurred later in the year, I appointed Bro. Rice to Chair the Committee.

Zero-Based Review of financial matters

I asked the Committee to conduct a zero-based review of all aspects of the financial affairs of our Grand Lodge and our subordinate Lodges, and to make recommendations deemed appropriate.

Specific questions were posed: Do we need regulations for financial matters? Why? What types of regulations or other provisions do we need? Why? How should they be structured? How many members should there be on the Committee? What expertise should we look for in Committee members? What is the optimum term for members of the Committee? Should we have term limits for Committee members?

As with all agencies, I asked the Committee to review what we are doing, why we are doing it, how we are doing it, how we can do it more effectively, and how we can improve it. I specifically asked the Committee to examine the Annual Budget in minute detail, in order to determine if it could identify any further opportunities to reduce our costs and expenses, or to achieve greater efficiencies or effectiveness in our operations.

Review Annual Budget format and structure

I asked the Committee to review our Grand Lodge Annual Budget, to ensure that it is structured in the proper format. I am concerned that our Annual Budget may not be organized and reported in the most correct or accurate manner. In my opinion, our goal should be to report and reflect all of the costs and expenses of our Grand Lodge in a logical and consistent manner, and in one which fairly and accurately shows the true costs of each area of operation.

For example, Account No. 850-00 contains provisions pertaining to Travel and Officers Expense. Should all of the expenses related to the Grand Master be included in a separate account? Should all of the expenses related to the Grand Secretary be included in a separate account? Account No. 870-00 contains provisions pertaining to Out-of-State Visitation. Does

this expense need to be set out in its own separate and distinct account, or should it more properly be reported under other accounts. Should the Grand Master's out-of-state travel and expense be reported under the account or line items pertaining to the Grand Master, and should the Grand Secretary's out-of-state travel and expense be reported under the account or line items pertaining to the Grand Secretary?

Account No. 880-00 contains provisions pertaining to the Annual Communication. The expenses of the Grand Lodge Officers, Past Grand Masters, DDGMs, DDGLs, and Boards, Commissions and Committees, are included here. Would it be more accurate or correct to include these expenses under the other accounts or line items for each of these respective offices? Or is it considered to be a more accurate method of reporting expenses to group them together under the account for the Annual Communication, thereby reflecting the true total cost of the Annual Communication?

I asked the Committee to review and study the structure and format of our Annual Budget, and to make any and all changes that may be necessary to ensure that we are reporting our activities and our expenses in the most accurate and proper manner, and in keeping with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP).

Review Reports format and structure

I am concerned that we may not be receiving all of the reports or information that we need to review our Annual Budget on a regular basis, and to evaluate intelligently our financial condition. I also am concerned that the reports that we do receive concerning our Annual Budget may not include all of the information that is necessary for a clear and accurate understanding of our finances. I want to ensure that all of the right information is given to our officers and Board and Committee members in the correct manner, and that it is reported in a format that is accurate and easy to understand.

In many nonprofit organizations, the Board members are provided a report called Operations Highlights. In other industries this is called an Income Statement. However, the trend now is to call this report a Statement of Operations, particularly in the nonprofit sector, where the emphasis is on service, and not on producing income. This report usually consists of one page, and is less detailed. It reflects revenue, deductions from revenue, expenses, and the bottom line. I am told that it is like a six-line Income Statement. In many nonprofits, the Board also receives a Balance Sheet. This is a report that lists assets on one page, and liabilities on a separate page.

I also am concerned that we are not monitoring our income, or revenue, like we should. At the June meeting of the Board of General Purposes, the Grand Secretary was requested to initiate a monthly report of income and expenses. I think that everyone recognizes that the bulk of our revenue is received in the January-March time frame, when the Lodges submit their annual reports. However, we do have interest and other income throughout the year.

It seems to me that we need to report our expected income on a month-to-month basis, in order to enable us to make financial decisions accordingly.

With the addition of Ms. Paula Strother to our Grand Lodge office staff, and through the efforts of our Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary, we are receiving more accurate reports, and we are receiving them more often. However, I do not recall that I have ever seen a balance sheet which reports our assets and our liabilities. I think that we should receive this informa-

tion monthly. I also question the use of a separate Grand Treasurer's Report. This is good information to have, but shouldn't it be reported in the other financial reports? Do we need a separate report from the Grand Treasurer? I definitely want to receive information on our various deposits, such as our CDs. However, it seems that we might be able to report this information in detail in our other reports.

I asked the Committee to review and study the structure and format of our various financial reports, and to make recommendations for any and all changes that may be necessary to ensure that we are reporting our activities, services, income, revenue, deductions, expenses, assets and liabilities, in the most accurate and proper manner, and in keeping with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP).

Review Grand Lodge and Subordinate Lodge financial security

Reg. 77-1 requires that each subordinate Lodge shall fix and collect such annual dues as may be necessary to enable it to maintain itself and discharge all of its duties and obligations. However, many Lodges do not have a written annual budget, as required by *The Code*. Many, if not most Lodges, do not have their dues set high enough to enable them to do so.

Few, if any, of our Lodges have raised their dues and fees to keep pace with inflation. The application fee at Widow's Son Lodge No. 75 in 1820 was \$5.00. Annual dues were \$2.00. The application fee at Palmyra Lodge No. 147 in 1858 was \$20.00. I have heard stories of how the application fees in the 1920s equaled a week's wages. Anyone with even a cursory knowledge of economics knows that those amounts would be much, much greater today. I suspect that they would be \$300-400, or even higher. However, even if our Lodges had raised their dues and fees to keep pace with inflation, there probably is a limit to how high they can be raised. It is obvious that the Grand Lodge leadership must try to determine ways to give the subordinate Lodges some relief and to help them in this area.

An amendment to *The Code* has been proposed to permit Lodges to conduct raffles. Personally, I have no problem with such activity, if it is conducted in a clean and wholesome manner. Many, if not most, organizations conduct raffles, including the PTO, churches, hospice groups, and others. Many people like to buy chances to win quilts, rods and reels, shotguns, and many other items. One of the most enjoyable evenings that I have spent was attending a reverse raffle of a pickup truck conducted by my county law enforcement association.

It may be that we need to make it easier for the subordinate Lodges to hold one annual fund-raising event for the maintenance and operation of the Lodge. Personally, I would much rather see the Masons support their Lodges and the Lodges support the communities in which they are located, rather than asking the communities to support the Lodges financially. However, that may no longer be feasible.

I asked the Committee to review *The Code*, and prepare and present to the Board of General Purposes a list of the various provisions pertaining to the financial security of the Grand Lodge and the subordinate Lodges, and a brief synopsis of each. I also asked the Committee to review and study the matter of the financial security of the Grand Lodge and the subordinate Lodges, and to provide to the Board of General Purposes a written report containing findings, conclusions and recommendations. In conducting this study, I particularly wanted the Committee to consult with the leaders of the Scottish Rite, York Rite and Shrine Temples, in order to obtain their perspective and opinions.

Review Grand Lodge policy on travel and *per diem*

Reg. 21-4 provides that the amount of *per diem* and mileage for those

entitled thereto shall be determined by the Committee on Finance and approved by the Board of General Purposes. Many of our brethren can afford to serve our fraternity without accepting travel or *per diem*, and many of them in fact do so. However, I do not want us to preclude brethren in less fortunate economic circumstances from serving, too. Do we need to eliminate travel and *per diem* for all but the elected Grand Lodge Officers, who are required to travel and attend a great number of meetings? I have seen many well-to-do brethren submit claims for travel at \$.15 per mile, when we could have used that money for other purposes and programs.

Further, there does not seem to be a consistent policy on travel and *per diem*. Does the policy apply only when a member is travelling around the State on Grand Lodge business? Or does it also apply when the Boards, Commissions and Committees meet in Raleigh? Usually, these expenses are directly billed to the Grand Lodge. Should we have a single policy on travel and *per diem*?

I asked the Committee to study all issues related to travel and *per diem*, and make recommendations deemed appropriate.

Review Grand Lodge Office efficiency

I am concerned that our Grand Lodge office operation is not as efficient as it should be. For example, Reg. 59-12.19 requires each Lodge Secretary to prepare and submit a Report of Doings (Official Form 49) for each stated communication. One member of our office staff receives and reviews these reports, and updates the Grand Lodge records pertaining to elections, initiations, raisings, etc. I estimate that our 383 subordinate Lodges produce at least 700 of these reports each month—one for each stated communication. That is an extremely time-consuming task, and it seems to me that there must be some more automated or efficient manner in which to obtain this information. Do we really need to do this, and to do it in this manner, or are we simply continuing to do it, and to do it this way, because that is what we have always done? Remember, *that if you keep on doing what you've always done, you'll keep on getting what you've always got.*

I suspect that there are other aspects of our Grand Lodge administration that may not be as efficient or as effective as we need them to be. We need to review each and every thing that we do, and ask ourselves if we really need to do it, or if so, do we need to do it in the manner in which we are doing it? Are there other things that we should be doing? Can we accomplish the same objectives in a better way?

Conclusion

Although not a member, I met with the Finance Committee on at least two occasions. On September 24, 1999, in Raleigh, I shared with the Committee my goals for the year. On January 13, 2000, also in Raleigh, I met with the Committee as they discussed the Grand Lodge Annual Budget for the year 2000.

It was mentioned that the Grand Master is not a member of the Committee, and some members apparently felt that I should not attend. However, I feel that the attendance of the Grand Master is entirely appropriate. It is he—and he alone—who is elected by the delegates with overall responsibility for the financial affairs of the Grand Lodge. Also, I feel that it is desirable for the Grand Master to be able to give the Committee the benefit of his observations and experience. Further, by being privy to the discussions of the Finance Committee—and in this manner alone—I was knowledgeable and prepared to discuss the proposed budget with the membership, at the Winter Seminars and on other occasions.

I asked the Committee to meet earlier in the year than it had been meeting in the past, so that it might complete its work on the Annual

Budget, and share its recommendations with the membership earlier than in the past.

I also asked the members of the Committee to attend the Winter Area Masonic Education Seminars, and to present the materials and information pertaining to finance and the Annual Budget.

Recommendations

I recommend that the Committee on Finance continue the work that it has begun to review and examine the Annual Budget in minute detail, in order to determine if it can identify any further savings or opportunities to reduce our costs and expenses, or to achieve greater efficiencies or effectiveness in our operations.

I recommend that the Committee continue the work that it has begun on a zero-based review and study of everything pertaining to the financial matters and affairs of the Grand Lodge and our subordinate Lodges, and make recommendations for any and all changes that may be necessary in order to ensure that we are operating in the most efficient and effective manner or otherwise to improve the financial affairs of the Grand Lodge and our subordinate Lodges.

I recommend that the Committee continue its review and study of the Grand Lodge Annual Budget format and structure, and make recommendations for any and all changes that may be necessary to ensure that we are reporting our activities, services, income, revenue, deductions, expenses, assets and liabilities, in the most accurate and proper manner, and in one which fairly and accurately shows the true costs of each area of operation, and in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP).

I recommend that the Committee continue its review and study of the structure and format of our various financial reports, and make recommendations for any and all changes that may be necessary to ensure that we are reporting our activities, services, income, revenue, deductions, expenses, assets and liabilities, in the most accurate and proper manner, and in one which fairly and accurately shows the true costs of each area of operation, and in keeping with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP).

I recommend that the Committee continue its review and study of the structure and format of our various financial reports, and make recommendations for any and all changes that may be necessary to ensure or enhance the financial stability and security of the Grand Lodge and our subordinate Lodges.

I recommend that the Committee continue its review and study of all aspects of our travel and *per diem* policy—specifically including the issue of whether we should eliminate travel and *per diem*—and make recommendations for any and all changes that may be necessary or desirable to enable the Grand Lodge to achieve greater efficiencies or to enhance its operations and programs.

I recommend that the Committee continue the work that it has begun to examine and review all facets of the operation and administration of the Grand Lodge administrative offices—specifically including a *time and efficiency* study, personnel study staffing study, or similar study or studies—in an effort to try to identify any further opportunities to improve Grand Lodge operations or programs, or to achieve greater efficiencies or effectiveness.

I recommend that the Committee continue to meet earlier in the year, and at various times throughout the year, so that it might complete its work on the Annual Budget, and share its recommendations with the membership earlier than in the past.

I recommend that the members of the Committee continue to partici-

pate in the Winter Area Masonic Education Seminars, and to present the materials pertaining to the proposed Annual Budget or any proposed amendments to *The Code* pertaining to the financial affairs of the Grand Lodge or our subordinate Lodges.

I recommend that the role and function of the Committee be expanded, and that it be given increased duties and responsibilities.

Committee on Charity

The provisions pertaining to the Committee on Charity are found in Reg. 34-12.

This Committee consists of a single member. I appointed W. Charles E. Scott, of Salem No. 289 in Winston-Salem, to the Committee, and as Chairman. Bro. Scott serves as the Almoner in the Valley of Winston-Salem in our Scottish Rite Bodies, and he has a great commitment to come to the relief of those who are suffering or in need.

For the fiscal year 1999, the sum of \$15,000 was included in the Grand Lodge Budget for Charity. As of December 31, 1999, a total of \$29,048.05 was remaining in our Charity Fund.

Conclusion

Disaster Relief Committee

On January 1, 1999, we had a total of \$63,769.75 in our Disaster Relief Fund. That amount represented funds remaining from the sums given to us in 1996 when Hurricane Fran caused so much damage. In September 1999, Hurricane Floyd and its related flooding struck eastern North Carolina a very devastating blow. As it does in times of disaster, the Masonic Service Association again came to our aid.

In 1996, the Grand Lodge Disaster Relief Committee consisted of the Grand Treasurer, Grand Secretary, and William G. Mathis, now Junior Grand Warden. In 1999 I added two additional members to that Committee: Leonard Y. Safrit, Jr., Grand Marshal, and Gene T. Jernigan, Junior Grand Steward.

Several Lodges submitted applications on behalf of brethren and local citizens who had sustained damage. The Grand Lodge Disaster Relief Committee has disbursed several thousand dollars for this cause. On February 29, 2000, we had a total of \$86,692.56 remaining in our Disaster Relief Fund.

I am concerned that we have retained and that we are holding so much of these funds. They were not budgeted or given to us to sit in our bank accounts. There many, many needs which deserve assistance. We can do those people no good if our funds are not disbursed. I am reminded of a poem: *Love wasn't put in your heart to stay, Love isn't Love 'til you give it away.*

That same sentiment should motivate our charitable giving. Yes, we should retain a portion of these funds for future needs. However, we should endeavor to meet as many present needs as we possibly can.

Also, neither the Grand Master nor the Board of General Purposes has been provided with a detailed accounting of the distribution of these funds.

I would like to thank all of these brethren for the dedicated service that they have provided.

Recommendations

I recommend that both the Committee on Charity, as well as the Disaster Relief Committee, endeavor to expend more of the funds with which they are entrusted in order to meet more of the needs of the suffering and distressed.

I recommend that Reg. 34-12 of *The Code* be amended, to increase the membership on the Committee on Charity, to not less than 7, and not more than 15.

I recommend that the Grand Lodge give a greater emphasis to the Committee on Charity, and develop a program for the greater use of these funds for the relief of the distressed and suffering.

I recommend that Chapter 34 of *The Code* be amended, to add the Committee on Disaster Relief as a Standing Committee.

I recommend that the Grand Master appoint the Chairman of both of these Committees.

I recommend that the activities of both of these Committees be included on the Agenda for the meetings of the Board of General Purposes, and that the Grand Master and the Board receive detailed reports on the distribution of these funds no less frequently than quarterly.

Committee on Necrology

The provisions pertaining to the Committee on Necrology are found in Reg. 34-14 of *The Code*.

This Committee consists of a single member, appointed annually.

I appointed W. and the Reverend A. Gene Cobb, Jr., of Royal White Hart No. 2 in Halifax, to Chair this Committee. Bro. Cobb is Assistant Grand Chaplain, and is an ordained Methodist minister.

Conclusion

Bro. Cobb has planned and will conduct our annual Memorial Service this afternoon, April 28, 2000.

Recommendations

I recommend that Reg. 34-14 of *The Code* be amended, to increase the membership on this Committee, to not less than 5, and not more than 9.

I recommend that the Grand Master appoint the Chairman.

I recommend that the Grand Lodge give greater emphasis to the work of the Committee on Necrology, as being the least that we can do to honor the memory of our departed brethren.

I recommend that the Grand Lodge develop a program to contact all of our Masonic widows each year, and to develop and maintain a relationship with those who so desire, in order to assure them that they are not forgotten, and further in order to fulfill our obligations to care for the widows of our brethren.

I recommend that the program for the annual Memorial Service contain a listing of the names of all of the brethren who have died in the past year.

Committee on Masonic and Eastern Star Home

The provisions pertaining to this Committee are contained in Reg. 34-17.

Traditionally, this Committee is chaired by the Junior Grand Warden, and meets one time at the Home. The Committee also submits a Report to the Grand Lodge.

Conclusion

Although *The Code* prescribes important duties, this Committee traditionally has been insignificant. It is supposed to oversee the operation and management of the Home on behalf of the Grand Lodge. Yet, its Reports are referred to the Board of Directors of the Home. That is the reverse of the

procedure that should be followed. I feel that this Committee either should be utilized properly in accordance with *The Code*, or it should be abolished.

Recommendations

I recommend that Reg. 34-17 of *The Code* be deleted, and that this Committee be abolished. As noted hereinbelow, the Grand Lodge does not *own* the Home, nor any portion of it. The control of the Home exercised by the Grand Lodge should be discontinued, and this charity should be free to function independently.

Committee on Masonic Home for Children

The provisions pertaining to this Committee are contained in Reg. 34-18.

Traditionally, this Committee is chaired by the Senior Grand Warden, and meets one time at the Home. The Committee also submits a Report to the Grand Lodge.

Conclusion

Although *The Code* prescribes important duties, this Committee traditionally has been insignificant. It is supposed to oversee the operation and management of the Home on behalf of the Grand Lodge. Yet, its Reports are referred to the Board of Directors of the Home. That is the reverse of the procedure that should be followed. I feel that this Committee either should be utilized properly in accordance with *The Code*, or it should be abolished.

Recommendations

I recommend that Reg. 34-18 of *The Code* be deleted, and that this Committee be abolished. As noted hereinbelow, the Grand Lodge does not *own* the Home, nor any portion of it. The control of the Home exercised by the Grand Lodge should be discontinued, and this charity should be free to function independently.

Committee on Permanent Building

The provisions pertaining to the Committee on Permanent Building are contained in Reg. 34-21 of *The Code*. Principally, it has general charge and supervision of the Grand Lodge building, furnishings, equipment and grounds, including the supervision, upkeep, maintenance and preservation of the same.

I appointed Bro. E. John Elmore, of Burlington No. 712 in Burlington, to serve on the Committee on Permanent Building, and to Chair it. A great deal of Bro. Elmore's career has been spent in shopping center development and management, and he has a strong background in building maintenance.

Shortly after his appointment, Bro. Elmore went on, under, through and around the Grand Lodge building, and conducted a thorough examination and review of its status and condition. Not unexpectedly, he identified a number of problems, including: roof leaks; high levels of humidity and moisture on the first floor and in the parlor; high humidity in the basement; asbestos contamination in the basement; replacement of chilled water air conditioning unit; replacement of HVAC controls; complete repaving of asphalt driveways and parking lot; and soil contamination from an old underground fuel oil storage tank. In each case, Bro. Elmore gave recommended solutions, together with cost estimates. Because of these problems, Bro. Elmore has recommended that we increase the amounts set aside in the Building Reserve account in the Annual Budget, to a total of \$100,000.

Brothers David R. Dunbar and his son, Joshua D. Dunbar, gave us an

outstanding price on removal of the underground fuel tank, and follow-up sampling and testing. It also was necessary to remove and dispose of the contaminated soil, and backfill the excavated area with a crushed stone capping. Although the removal phase of the project has been completed, we still may face further problems and expense.

I want to congratulate and commend Bro. Elmore on the excellent service that he has given the Grand Lodge. It never is pleasing to hear bad news, but everyone who owns a house or other building well knows that it is absolutely necessary to maintain them properly. I fear that the problems that we are facing now are the result of our failure to identify and address them in the past.

Conclusion

For several years now, I have been concerned that we do not have an accurate estimate of the fair market value of our land and building. Our property on Glenwood Avenue is situated in a prime location. From time to time, we receive inquiries and even offers to buy it. To date, none of those offers has been attractive enough. However, the time will come when we will receive an offer that we cannot refuse. We need to obtain a market analysis, or other value appraisal, in order to know what our property realistically is worth. We need to be prepared.

A related issue involves the question of whether we want to own, operate and maintain our own building, or whether the Grand Lodge and the fraternity might be better served to rent or make other arrangements. It has been suggested that we could sell our building in Raleigh, and construct a new office facility on the campus of the Masonic Home for Children at Oxford or the Masonic and Eastern Star Home in Greensboro. We have much more room at Oxford, and that location has the added benefit of being in a less expensive cost-of-living area than either Raleigh or Greensboro. It also has been suggested that we could build another facility, either in Raleigh or elsewhere in the state. Another suggestion has been posited that our Masonic Charities construct a central administration building, and that the Grand Lodge could rent the space it needs there.

Regardless of what location we ultimately select, in my opinion we definitely need seriously to pursue selling our property on Glenwood Avenue, and seek other, less expensive quarters. It appears that the time has come when we no longer can afford to maintain that property adequately. If we sell it, we can invest a portion of the proceeds to endow the operations of the Grand Lodge, thereby avoiding or reducing the need for future *per capita* increases. With the balance of the sale proceeds, we should be able to negotiate a long-term lease for office space adequate to meet our needs.

Recommendations

I recommend that the Grand Lodge increase the amounts set aside in the Building Reserve account to \$100,000.

I recommend that the Grand Lodge continue to pursue the maintenance, repair and preservation of its property.

I recommend that the Grand Lodge obtain a market analysis, or other appraisal of fair market value, in order to be prepared to sell our property, if the right offer is made.

I recommend that, when the right opportunity presents itself, the Grand Lodge sell the present property at Glenwood Avenue.

I recommend that the Grand Lodge actively pursue and study the matter of office facilities adequate to meet its needs.

I recommend that the Grand Lodge use a portion of the proceeds from

the sale of the Glenwood Avenue property to obtain replacement office facilities.

I recommend that the Grand Lodge use a portion of the proceeds from the sale of the Glenwood Avenue property to endow permanently the operations of the Grand Lodge, thereby avoiding or reducing the necessity for future *per capita* increases.

Committee on Masonic Public Relations

The provisions pertaining to the Committee on Masonic Public Relations are found in Reg. 34-22 of *The Code*. Principally, its responsibility is to develop and implement programs designed to increase public awareness of Freemasonry, and to make the public aware of the good effects and purposes of the Masonic Fraternity.

Based on the excellent work that he did last year, I appointed W. James E. Reddish, of Meadow Branch No. 578 in Wingate, and DDGM in the 39th Masonic District, to Chair the Committee on Masonic Public Relations. Bro. Reddish owns a commercial radio station, and last year single-handedly wrote, produced and distributed a series of Masonic Public Service Announcements to other radio stations. He also distributed a number of Masonic videotape programs to cable television stations.

Zero-based review

I asked the Committee to conduct a zero-based review of the public relations and public information needs of the Grand Lodge, its agencies, and the subordinate Lodges, and to make any recommendations that were deemed appropriate. Specific questions included: What should our public relations program consist of? How should it be organized? What should we be doing? How should we be doing it? How many members should there be on the Committee? What expertise should we look for in Committee members?

Highway billboards

Last year, Bro. Reddish did a marvelous job of obtaining highway billboards promoting Freemasonry at very little cost. These billboards were located in the greater Charlotte market area. I feel that for too long, Freemasonry has hidden its light under the proverbial *bushel*. I feel that we need to come out into the public view, so that everyone can see us, and know who we are, and what we do. I asked the Committee to try to obtain a greater number of billboards to tell our story.

I think that we should sponsor billboards which merely contain a good moral message. Freemasonry is a system of morality. One of the jewels of a Master Mason is morality. I think that virtually everyone would agree that we certainly could use more moral training and greater emphasis on morals and morality today. We could develop board messages which would contain the basic lessons of morality which our fraternity teaches and for which we say we stand. We would need to focus on the basic principles on which good men of all generations have agreed. We cannot afford to go public with anything which would be controversial or for which we could be criticized.

We also need to tell the story of our children's home. There are approximately 60-75 empty beds at Oxford. We are not getting the referrals that we need to fill them. The social workers do not know about our children's home. The school teachers do not know about our children's home. And there are many, many others who are in positions from which they could make referrals to our children's home. And we definitely need to

tell the story of the Masonic Student Assistance Program (MSAP) which we are sponsoring at Oxford. We need to publicize a toll-free telephone number which interested persons may call to obtain further information.

I asked the Committee to review and study the use of billboards in our public relations program, and to make any recommendations deemed appropriate. Bro. Reddish did even better than that. He obtained billboards for us along I-85, stretching into the Hickory, Statesville, Winston-Salem, Greensboro market areas. Later, billboards in the Durham and Raleigh market areas were added. Early this year, billboards were obtained in Eastern North Carolina, along I-95 and stretching into the Fayetteville, Wilmington, Jacksonville, New Bern, Greenville, Wilson and Rocky Mount market areas.

The billboards last year focused on Freemasonry. However, the boards this year have featured the Masonic Home for Children and our MSAP program. For most of these boards, we have had to pay only for the paper and an installation fee.

Commercial television

I feel that we need to use commercial television to publicize who we are and to tell our story. We can try to get free public service announcements, but we can pay for spots if we have to do so. In recent years, the Mormon Church has sponsored a series of extremely warm and moving spots on commercial television which focus on family relationships. We could do something similar. Suggestions on how to be a better man, husband, father, son, neighbor, and citizen. Or, again, a series of public service announcements addressing issues of morality. Again, too, we would need to focus on the basic principles on which good men of all generations have agreed. We simply cannot afford to go public with anything which would be controversial or for which we could be criticized.

One cost-free mechanism which we have available to us in commercial television is to have Lodges and Masons participate in the various telethons that the stations and networks hold each year. Everyone knows about the Jerry Lewis Muscular Dystrophy telethon. But there also are many others, some only local to one particular station. WRAL Channel 5 in Raleigh holds a telethon each year to raise money for coats for children, or something like that. I feel certain that just about every network or station in North Carolina holds telethons. And for telethons, they all need volunteers to answer the telephones. And we have nearly 58,000 Masons who could serve as volunteers. We could even ask them to set aside one night as Freemason night, when all of the volunteers would be Masons. They might even talk about Freemasonry with some of our members on the air.

We have several brethren who are employed in commercial television or retired from it. Brother Doug Mayes, who is retired from a Charlotte station, is a member of the broadcasters Hall of Fame. Brother John Moore from Farmville is employed in this field. Bro. Tom Dooley from Charlotte has a close business relationship with the owners and managers of WRAL Channel 5 in Raleigh. Perhaps there are others who are employed in commercial television, either on the air, in production, or in some other capacity. We need to identify them, and call on them for guidance and assistance.

Public television

I feel that we need to use public television to publicize who we are and to tell our story. While public television does not use regular advertisements, they do publicize those who underwrite their programs. Last year, WUNC aired programs on President and Brother Harry Truman, and also on Brothers Lewis and Clark who explored the Pacific Northwest. I con-

tacted the station to inquire about the costs of sponsoring, or underwriting, their programs. Although she had no Masonic family members, the lady with whom I spoke had a keen interest in Freemasonry. She indicated that they would be very interested in working with us, and that they might be able to offer us some underwriting opportunities at less than the usual rates.

Also, WUNC holds its annual fund-raising telethon every year in the February-March time frame. Again, we could have our members, and perhaps even Lodges, volunteer to answer the telephones during this telethon. Brother Willard Campbell, who is the Secretary of University No. 408 in Chapel Hill, is an engineer at WUNC. Perhaps there are others who are employed in public television, either on the air, in production, or in some other capacity. We need to identify them, and call on them for guidance and assistance.

Commercial radio

Much of what was said about commercial television applies equally to commercial radio. We can try to obtain free Public Service Announcements (PSA's). The Committee has been extremely successful in doing that. We also can purchase some spots if necessary. We have several brethren who either own radio stations, manage them, or otherwise are employed in public radio. Again, we need to identify them, and call on them for guidance and assistance.

Public radio

Again, much of what was said about public television applies equally to public radio. We need to investigate underwriting opportunities, and all other possibilities for free spots. I know that we have one brother who is employed in public radio in either Morehead City or New Bern. There may be others. Again, we need to identify them, and call on them for guidance and assistance.

Newspapers

I think that we need to make greater use of the newspapers. The large dailies probably will not publish anything from us, but I suspect that the smaller dailies would. I know that the weeklies would publish articles from us, because it seems that they will publish anything which they get for free, at least the ones in my area do.

It is my understanding that Brother Hoover Adams owns and publishes the newspaper in Dunn. Brother Don Bolton is the editor of the paper in Burlington. Again, no doubt there are others. We need to identify them, and call on them for guidance and assistance. We need to identify brethren who would be willing to write articles on Masonic and related topics, for distribution to newspapers across the State.

Masonic Information Center

In response to the attacks on Freemasonry from the religious right, and underwritten by a monetary gift from Brother John Robinson, the Masonic Service Association organized a Masonic Information Center a few years ago. The Center endeavors to make available to the public information about Freemasonry. They continue to respond to the continued attacks from the religious radicals. They also respond to magazine and newspaper articles which contain information about us which is inaccurate or critical. And they provide information to film-makers who are working on documentaries. I feel very strongly that we need to initiate a Masonic Information program here in North Carolina. I do not know that we need—or could

financially support—a Center. But we can do much more than we are doing in the area of public information.

I would like to see biographical articles prepared on all of our Grand Lodge Officers, members of Boards, Commissions and Committees, DDGMs, DDGLs, and on and on. Again, the large dailies probably would not print them, but the smaller dailies and the weeklies probably will. We also could prepare and distribute articles about some of the residents at our Masonic and Eastern Star Home in Greensboro. People always enjoy reading articles about our senior citizens. We have many who have led very interesting lives. We need to publicize our members who receive awards, especially the 50, 60, 70 and 75 year awards that we present.

We also could prepare and distribute articles about some of the students at our Masonic Home for Children at Oxford. Last year, one of our students was featured in the Durham newspaper because of his soccer prowess. In January, the *Durham Herald* ran a front-page feature story on Bundy Cottage. The reporter visited the Home several times over a period of several months, and wrote a very complimentary article. We need to understand that the key to obtaining media coverage is not to promote Freemasonry, but rather to put some current event or human interest spin on the story.

Public Information Officer

W. J. Jim Medlin has been designated as the Director of Development at each of our two Homes. Oxford has hired Brother Chris Richardson as Assistant Director of Development to work with Bro. Medlin. Greensboro is advertising for a similar position there. I feel that these Development assistants will need to be engaged not only in formal development activities, but also will need to be involved in public relations and public information. The development role, however, is critical, and they will need to focus on and concentrate in that area. Initially, while they are learning the development business, they may have some time for public relations. Eventually, however, they will not be able to do that.

I would like for us to have a Public Information Officer to cover the Grand Lodge, all of our institutions and agencies, and our subordinate Lodges. How could we pay for such a position? We do not have the money in the Grand Lodge budget, and I do not realistically see how we can get it. We could let the two Homes split the cost. Or we could let the two Homes and the Foundation share the expense. Or we even could try to identify a brother who may be retired and who would be willing to pursue these duties for travel and expenses only.

Journalists and writers

We have a number of members who are skilled journalists or writers. Brother Wesley Lefler, of Concord, immediately comes to my mind. Bro. Lefler has an English degree from Duke, with postgraduate studies in journalism at UNC. After several years at newspapers, beginning in 1965 he worked at UNC's University News Bureau in Chapel Hill, from which he retired as the Director in 1990. At UNC, Bro. Lefler's responsibilities were to soften the University fund raising market by targeting and cultivating friends of the University. Soft marketing focused on promotion of the general worth of the University by spotlighting teaching, research and public service successes. Intermediate marketing identified major contributors as vital assets to the University, and promoted the value of their contributions. Because of these experiences, Bro. Lefler has a long-standing personal relationship with hundreds of editors, writers and fund-raising executives in North Carolina and other states. He has been the publications editor at Oasis Shrine Temple since 1990.

I am deeply concerned that here we have a member who possesses a tremendous wealth of expertise, which we badly need, and that we have failed to recruit him for our efforts and to utilize him. I am confident that there are many, many other brethren here in North Carolina who have both the writing skills that we need, and the dedication to Freemasonry, that we need in order to call on them on a volunteer basis. Once more, we need to identify them, and call on them for guidance and assistance.

Public Officials

I think that we need to identify all of the public officials in North Carolina—Federal, State and local—not just the Masons—and include them in our public relations efforts. We also need to identify our Masonic public officials. These would include Judges, legislators, mayors, county commissioners, city councils, town boards, school boards, and so on. We need to do this for several reasons. First, many of them are in positions of influence, and they can help us. Second, our public relations program could prepare articles on these public officials for submission to the media. While focusing on their public service, we could mention that they are Freemasons. The public would soon begin to get the point.

Cornerstones

For over 200 years, Freemasons have been known for laying the cornerstones of public, and perhaps other, buildings. The cornerstones of many, if not most, of the older public buildings were laid in Masonic ceremonies. I do not understand why we got away from that, but I would like to see us get back into that business. This is another reason for us to identify and recognize our Masonic public officials. Many of them will be in positions to help us become involved in cornerstone ceremonies. In September 1997 our Grand Lodge conducted the cornerstone ceremony for the new judicial building in Gastonia. We were able to do that because a Mason was the Chairman or Vice Chairman of the County Commission.

I would like for us to prepare an appropriate brochure or other literature outlining the history of Masonic involvement in cornerstone ceremonies. I also would like for us to write to every architect and general contractor in North Carolina, and to anyone else who might be in a position to help us, offering the services of the Grand Lodge to lay cornerstones of the buildings which they design and build. In addition to architects and general contractors, we also could write to plumbing contractors, electrical contractors, heating and air conditioning contractors, and anyone else involved in the construction of a new building. I know of Brother Tom Dooley of Charlotte, who owns and manages what I understand is one of North Carolina's largest general contracting firms. We also have Brothers Galard Moore and Doug Moore of Monroe, who are in the construction business. Again, no doubt we have many, many other brothers who are engaged in these occupations who are in a position to help us. All we have to do is identify them, and ask them for their assistance.

In contacting architects, general contractors and others, I suggest that we identify one of our own members who works in that area, and recruit him to send the letters on his letterhead. I feel certain that Brother Dooley would be glad to do that for us.

Public ceremonies

I would like for Freemasons to become more involved in public ceremonies. We could participate as individual Masons or as Lodges, or perhaps even as a Grand Lodge. Again, this is another reason to identify our Masonic public officials, since many of them will be involved in the planning of various public ceremonies.

Holidays

Masonic involvement with holidays is closely related to our involvement in public ceremonies. I feel that we should lose no opportunity to let the public know who we are and what we stand for. We could do this on many of the public holidays. I am concerned that we are missing out on many golden opportunities to present ourselves to the public in a positive light.

Brochures and literature

Several years ago, the Grand Lodge obtained a supply of brochures entitled "The Real Secret of Freemasonry—Making Good Men Better." I have a few of them left. Other than that, I never see any of them anymore. A number of questions spring to mind: Do we have any at the Grand Lodge? If so, how many? Are we using them? If so, how?

I feel that we need to have several different types of informational literature on Freemasonry which we can furnish to our own members and to the general public. A number of brochures and other literature is available from the Masonic Renewal Committee of North America.

Publications

At present, we have two publications available to us: *The North Carolina Mason* from the Grand Lodge, and *Campus Tracks* at the Childrens' Home. I feel that we should be sending some type of publication(s) to individuals who are not already a part of our fraternity. For example, I think that we should be sending *Campus Tracks* to the Senators, Governor, Council of State, Executive Cabinet, Legislators, Judges, Departments of Social Services, and anyone else who we might want to impress. It may be that we also want some other type of publication that we could send to non-Masons.

Toll-free telephone number

We have a toll-free telephone number at the Grand Lodge, yet we seldom publicize it. I think that we should advertise the number, so that interested individuals can call to request additional information about Freemasonry.

Sponsorship of events

I would like to see us sponsor public events as a means of publicizing who we are and what we are. We already have St. John's Day at the Childrens' Home. I understand that part of the purpose of that event is to say "thank you" to the Town of Oxford and Granville County. While we usually have 10-15,000 people who come to our campus, we really do not have a good opportunity to tell them much about our fraternity or what we do.

I remember that the year Most Worshipful Bud McCall was Grand Master, the Grand Lodge hosted a free concert by the Charlotte Symphony at Memorial Auditorium in Raleigh. As I recall, the music featured our Brother, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. I would like to see us do more of that. Renting facilities like Memorial Auditorium would be expensive, and I do not know that we could afford the North Carolina Symphony. However, there are many other symphonies in North Carolina, and many other facilities. As I understand it, the Charlotte Symphony frequently uses the auditorium at Oasis Temple. Given its size, I also feel that the Charlotte Scottish Rite Temple could accommodate a concert. The Wilmington Scottish Rite Temple also could accommodate a concert, although seating would be limited. We also could work with the various colleges and universities,

to help underwrite programs by their musical groups, using their facilities. I think that the opportunities in this area are unlimited.

Since there is no money in the Grand Lodge budget for this sort of thing, we will have to look elsewhere. The Masonic and Eastern Star Home in Greensboro could sponsor a free concert in Greensboro, as a means of saying "thank you" to that city. The Masonic Home for Children could sponsor free concerts as a means of spreading the message about what we are doing for children, and that we can help even more. The Masonic Foundation also could underwrite the costs of concerts for these purposes. I believe that the Charters of all three of these organizations would permit such activities.

Web pages and internet

Brother Alvin L. Hardy, of Snow No. 363 in Boone, is extremely knowledgeable in the area of web pages and the internet. Because of everything that he has done—and continues to do—for us, I appointed him as our *Grand Webmaster*. W. Joseph K. Transou, of Hiram No. 40 in Raleigh, operates the Tar Heel Mason network for us. No doubt, there are other brethren who are extremely proficient in this area, and who would be glad to assist us in our public relations efforts.

Subordinate Lodges

In all that we do, I feel that we should keep in mind that we need to do everything that we can to support and assist our local Lodges with their public relations efforts and activities.

Conclusion

Simply stated, I asked the Public Relations Committee to review and study all aspects of our public information and public relations program and coverages, and to make any and all recommendations deemed appropriate.

The Committee has made great strides. Our Public Relations Program is doing more than we ever have done. However, there is so much, much more that can be done, and that needs to be done, to enhance Freemasonry in the public eye.

Recommendations

I recommend that the Grand Lodge continue—and increase—its emphasis on, and financial support of, our Public Relations Program.

I recommend that the Committee on Masonic Public Relations continue the work that it has begun in all of the areas discussed hereinabove, to further expand and enhance our Public Relations Program.

I recommend that the Grand Lodge consolidate the Board of Publications, *The North Carolina Mason*, the Grand Lodge web site, the Tar Heel Mason network, and the Public Relations Committee, and reorganize them into a new Public Affairs Program similar to those utilized so successfully by Oasis and Sudan Shrine Temples. With the limited financial resources that we have for this program, we need to ensure that we are achieving maximum efficiencies and effectiveness. We can do that only with a coordinated effort.

I recommend that the size of the Committee on Masonic Public Relations, or its successor entity, if reorganized, be expanded to include more members, perhaps as many as 15 or more. With the limited financial resources which we are devoting to this endeavor, if we are to achieve an effective statewide public relations program, we can do so only with a large group of dedicated volunteers. Oasis and Sudan Shrine Temples have very active and very effective public affairs programs, and the Grand Lodge would be well-advised to learn from them and to emulate their success in this area.

I recommend that the Grand Lodge devote much more energy in identifying our members who are employed or otherwise have expertise in the various areas of public relations, and recruiting them to assist us in our public relations efforts.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Special Committees are authorized and permitted pursuant to Reg. 27-2 of *The Code*. Several have been created in years past, and I created several new ones this year.

Special Committee on Youth Organizations

For several years, we have had a Special Committee on Youth Organizations. I am not really sure what that Committee did, because it never achieved a very high degree of visibility in the Grand Lodge. Also, it appeared to me that the majority of the Committee was comprised of brethren primarily involved in the Order of DeMolay for Boys.

I decided to enlarge the Committee, and to endeavor to appoint an equal number of brethren who were interested in each of our three Masonic youth organizations. I solicited recommendations from all of the adult advisors of these three groups. I appointed as Chairman W. Charles V. ("Chuck") Rouse, Jr., current Master of Hiram No. 40 in Raleigh, and a former DeMolay and active DeMolay advisor. I have been greatly impressed by Bro. Rouse's dedication to Freemasonry and our youth.

Zero-Based review

I asked the Committee to conduct a zero-based review of itself and all of our activities pertaining to our three Masonic youth organizations. I asked the Committee to review what we have been doing, and also to consider what we should be doing.

Increased financial support

One of the obvious things that we can do for our Masonic Youth Organizations is to increase our financial support to them. In the Grand Lodge Annual Budget for 1999, we appropriated \$7,000 to them. I understand that it was divided up among them, based on their respective membership.

Increased leadership support

In addition to financial support, however, we also need to increase our support of our Masonic Youth Organizations by providing the adult leadership that they need, as well as allowing them to meet in our Lodge facilities.

I was gravely disappointed last year when one of our Lodges in Wilmington forced the Rainbow Girls to discontinue meeting in its building. They now meet at the Scottish Rite Temple. Brethren, that most definitely is not the way it is supposed to be. That is not providing the support to our Masonic Youth Organizations that we are obligated to provide. I sincerely hope that this Lodge will see the error of its ways, and reconsider its action.

We should have Assemblies, Bethels and Chapters of these three Masonic Youth Organizations in every major city and town in North Carolina. There is no excuse not to do so. In the smaller communities, where a single Lodge cannot support them, it could be accomplished on a District basis. The only reason that we do not have them is a lack of interest and commitment on the part of we Masons. Brethren, we can do better. Let's do so!

Support for youth in general

I do not feel that we should limit our support of youth to our three

Masonic Youth Organizations only. We can support all of the youth of North Carolina, through support of Scouting programs, sponsorship of Little League teams and college scholarships, and a number of other ways. Our youth are our future. Let's do more to help them.

Staff person for youth programs

Each of our Masonic Youth Organizations has an adult advisor who serves on a statewide basis. Each of these persons serves on a volunteer basis. It is not how they earn their living. We all know that we can expect only so much from volunteers, especially those who still are otherwise employed.

If we expect to be successful in our youth programs, there needs to be someone whose sole job it is to work in this area, and who is adequately paid and funded. I would like to see us create a new position for a full-time director of youth programs and activities. Such a person would travel the State, assisting and supporting the existing Assemblies, Bethels and Chapters; forming new ones; and assisting the three Masonic Youth Organizations, and the Lodges and Masons that sponsor and support them.

Sadly, we do not have sufficient resources at the Grand Lodge to fund such a position. However, it readily could be done by the North Carolina Masonic Foundation, or either by the Masonic Home for Children at Oxford.

The Charter of the Masonic Foundation states that its purposes or objects include *the promotion of the educational and charitable objects, plans or purposes of the Grand Lodge...., or for the promotion of any specified object of the Grand Lodge....* The Charter also states that the Foundation exists for the purpose of *assisting the educational projects, plans, purposes and objects of the Grand Lodge....* Further, the Charter expressly specifies that the Masonic Foundation exists for the purpose of *aiding in the education of the youth of the State of North Carolina*. Clearly, those provisions authorize the financial support by the Masonic Foundation of a program for youth development, programs and activities in our state.

The Charter of the Masonic Home for Children at Oxford might need to be amended, to specify such broader purposes. However, we probably should expand the role and purpose of our children's home anyhow. Other children's homes, notably the Methodist Home for Children, have expanded their traditional role. Most children's homes are discouraging long-term residential care, like that which we provide. Our Masonic Home for Children at Oxford was the first, and is the oldest children's home in the State of North Carolina. We were the first to recognize the need, and to take action to address it. If we are to reclaim our rightful place at the forefront of children's services, then we need to expand the role into which we have comfortably settled.

In my opinion, it would be desirable to have such a director of youth development housed at the Grand Lodge Offices in Raleigh, or at the Masonic Home for Children at Oxford. The position might fit better into an expanded program at Oxford. I am confident that there are a number of caring brethren and friends who would be interested in contributing to the Masonic Foundation or to the children's home, specifically for the object of youth development.

Conclusion

The Chairman reported that this year the Committee has assisted and supported our Masonic Youth Organizations in the following ways: Masonic Youth Activity Day, held at our Masonic Home for Children at Oxford; designation of March as Masonic Youth Month; and the printing and distribution to the subordinate Lodges of informational place mats providing details on our Masonic Youth Organizations. These organizations would

like to submit articles to *The North Carolina Mason* as a way of further informing our membership of their purposes and activities. Also, they would like to continue to provide an information table at our Annual Communication, as well as have the youth leaders address the delegates.

Bro. Rouse reported that, after study, the Committee does not feel that an adult director of youth development is needed. Although other states use them successfully, the Committee feels that the Masonic Youth Organizations in North Carolina are not large enough to justify such a position. Job's Daughters has only about 65 members, DeMolay about 300, and Rainbow Girls about 400. The Committee acknowledged that all three groups are suffering from a lack of participation and membership decline. The Committee feels that what our Masonic Youth Organizations need is communication, publicity, Masonic Education, and promotion.

I interpret the data compiled by the Committee differently. It seems to me that the needs identified by the Committee clearly indicate that we need to have someone who can devote their full-time energy and attention to our Masonic Youth Organizations. We simply cannot expect or hope to accomplish what we need to do relying solely on part-time volunteer leadership. If we are serious about wanting to promote and develop our Masonic Youth Organizations, and youth in general, then we need to appropriate the money necessary to do it.

The Committee reported that Job's Daughters and the Order of DeMolay are implementing web sites in North Carolina, and that the Rainbow Girls have an international one. As noted above, the Grand Lodge gave \$7,000 to our Masonic Youth Organizations. The Committee has been asked to supply a detailed accounting of the use of those funds.

Recommendations

I recommend that *The Code* be amended, and that the Special Committee on Masonic Youth Organizations be changed to a Standing Committee on Youth Programs and Activities.

I recommend that the Committee on Masonic Youth Organizations have a membership of not less than 15, and not more than 21.

I recommend that the Grand Master appoint the Chairman of the Committee.

I recommend that the statewide adult leader of the Order of DeMolay be appointed as a member of the Committee.

I recommend that the statewide adult leaders of our two Masonic Youth Organizations for girls be appointed as *advisors* to the Committee.

I recommend that the Committee continue to include as members an equal number of representatives for each of our three Masonic Youth Organizations.

I recommend that the Grand Lodge continue its financial support of our Masonic Youth Organizations.

I recommend that the Grand Lodge increase its efforts to obtain more adult leaders for our Masonic Youth Organizations.

I recommend that the Grand Lodge increase its efforts to expand the number of Assemblies, Bethels and Chapters in North Carolina.

I recommend that the subordinate Lodges allow our Masonic Youth Organizations to meet in their Lodge buildings, and use their facilities at no charge.

I recommend that we expand our support for youth beyond our three Masonic Youth Organizations, and participate in and support a broader range of programs for all of the youth of North Carolina.

I recommend that a person be hired and employed full-time as director

of youth development, with responsibilities to travel the state; provide support to the Lodges and to our Masonic Youth Organizations; promote the creation of, and provide support to, new Assemblies, Bethels and Chapters; and develop and provide support to other programs for all of the youth of North Carolina.

I recommend that such a staff person be employed by the Masonic Home for Children at Oxford, and be provided an office there, and that all of the costs of this staff person be paid by the North Carolina Masonic Foundation.

I recommend that, rather than giving each group a *pro rata* portion of the Grand Lodge appropriation for our Masonic Youth Organizations, the funds be disbursed upon the written request of the adult leader of each group, and that an accurate and detailed accounting be provided to, or developed or maintained by, the Grand Lodge. We must have greater accountability of Grand Lodge funds.

Special Committee on Insurance

The Special Committee on Insurance has existed for a number of years. Traditionally, it has been comprised of five members, and it has been chaired by the Brother who administers the Grand Lodge Insurance Program. As an attorney, I am particularly sensitive of the need to avoid even the appearance of impropriety, and I did not feel that our insurance administrator should chair the Committee charged with overseeing and evaluating our insurance program. I appointed W. Christopher L. Burti, PDDGM, of Farmville No. 517 in Farmville, to Chair the Committee. Bro. Burti is an attorney, and is Vice President and Legal Counsel to Statewide Title Insurance Agency. I expanded the size of the Committee to 15 members, to which I appointed brethren with significant experience in the law, insurance, and, especially, business and commerce.

Reg. 28-3.3 and other provisions in *The Code* make it perfectly clear that the Grand Lodge has a duty to supervise the operation and activities of all of the institutions and agencies in which the Grand Lodge has an interest. For that reason, and further in order to try to achieve every possible efficiency and economy, I also appointed the members of this Committee to serve as the Insurance Committee at each of our two Homes, in Oxford and Greensboro, with Bro. Burti as Chairman of each.

As an attorney, I am keenly sensitive of the need for adequate insurance coverage, both as to type and amount. As a Mason and as Grand Master, I also am keenly sensitive of the significant expense that insurance constitutes in the Annual Budgets of the Grand Lodge, our subordinate Lodges, and our agencies. Two years ago, the Secretary of my Lodge—which participates in the Grand Lodge insurance program, supposedly the best and least expensive insurance coverage available—reported that our annual insurance premium was approximately \$1,300, which was nearly 1/3 of our annual budget. Interestingly, at the same time, the Secretary reported that his Church—which is a structure very similar to our Lodge—paid only \$200 for its insurance coverage.

Zero-Based Review

For the foregoing and other reasons, I asked the Committee to conduct a zero-based review of all of the insurance needs and coverages of the Grand Lodge, its agencies, and the subordinate Lodges.

Review insurance coverage

I asked the Committee to review the insurance coverages for the Grand Lodge, the subordinate Lodges, the Masonic Home for Children at Oxford, and the Masonic and Eastern Star Home in Greensboro, including buildings

and grounds; employees; Officers, Boards, Commissions and Committees; and volunteers and any and all others for whom coverage should be provided. Such coverage may include some or all of the following: Fire and casualty; Liability; Health and medical; Dental; Life; Workers Compensation; and Directors and Officers.

Many of the issues pertaining to child care are unique, specifically including sexual and physical abuse, disciplinary matters, and many others. Many of the issues pertaining to elder care are unique, specifically including negligence and medical malpractice, sexual and physical abuse, and many others.

In the past, the members of the Board of Directors of the North Carolina Masonic Foundation, Inc., have managed and invested the money which makes up our endowment. Additionally, both Homes have asked the Foundation to manage and invest some or all of their endowment funds. At times, the funds managed and invested by the Foundation may exceed \$40-50 million. I have serious concerns about the liability of the members of the Boards of Directors of MHCO, MESH and the Foundation in this regard.

I asked the Committee to make absolutely certain that we have all of the insurance coverage that we need for all of our personnel, including our members, guests and volunteers. I asked the Committee to determine what coverages we have, both as to type and amount, as well as what coverages we need, both as to type and amount.

Review Surety Bonds

Reg. 15-1.11 of *The Code* requires that the Grand Treasurer shall execute and file with the Grand Master, within fifteen days after his installation, an official surety bond in such amount as the Grand Lodge or the Grand Master may require but not less than \$20,000, with such sureties as shall be approved by the Grand Master. Reg. 16-1.41 requires that the Grand Secretary shall execute and file with the Grand Master, within fifteen days after his installation, an official surety bond in such amount as the Grand Lodge or the Grand Master may require but not less than \$20,000, with such sureties as shall be approved by the Grand Master. The Grand Lodge pays the premium for these bonds. I do not know when the \$20,000 amount was established. However, given the amounts of funds that we have today, it may be that these bonds should be increased, perhaps to \$500,000.

Reg. 59-11.7 requires that the Treasurer of a subordinate Lodge shall give a surety bond in such sum and upon such conditions as the Lodge may require. Reg. 59-12.22 requires that the Secretary of a subordinate Lodge shall give a surety bond in such sum and upon such conditions as the Lodge may require. Reg. 60-1.3(H) requires that the Trustees of a subordinate Lodge shall give such bonds as the Lodge or the Grand Lodge may require.

I asked the Committee to review and study the issue of surety bonds in our fraternity. I also asked the Committee to determine if the current provisions for bonds are adequate, or if the amounts or other requirements should be increased, and to make any recommendations deemed appropriate.

Other considerations

In addition to the foregoing aspects of coverages and premium costs, I asked the Committee to make recommendations as to the specific company or companies and agent or agents which it feels we should use. I do not think that anyone who is involved on the Committee or in any other elected or appointed capacity in the Grand Lodge or any of its agencies should be permitted to bid on or have any of our insurance business. I also want to make absolutely certain that all of our insurance business is handled in a completely open and above-board manner, that it is well-publicized, and

that all interested companies and/or agents have an opportunity to bid on it on a completely competitive basis. I am particularly anxious to avoid any conflicts of interest, or even the appearance of a conflict of interest or the possibility of a conflict of interest. I also want to avoid the appearance of any favoritism in the selection of any company or agent. I asked the Committee to review and study any and all other pertinent issues relating to our insurance program and our insurance coverage.

Self-insuring organization

I asked the Committee to study the applicable laws, and determine if it might be feasible for us to organize some type of self-insuring entity. As an attorney, I was tangentially involved in a matter in which a self-insuring trust fund experienced financial difficulties, and the members of the trust responded by forming some type of reciprocal exchange or other mutual organization by which they still were self-insuring. I do not know the details of how it functioned. However, the concept seems clear.

We have 383 individual Lodges in North Carolina, although not all of them have their own separate physical structure. But with all of the Lodges, the Grand Lodge, our two Homes, the Scottish Rite facilities, the York Rite facilities, the Shrine, and perhaps other Masonic-related organizations, it seems to me that we might be large enough to self-insure.

Reinsurance

I asked the Committee to study the possibility of self-insuring up to a certain amount, and then purchasing reinsurance above that amount, perhaps from an entity like Lloyd's of London.

Our own company

If a reciprocal exchange or other self-insuring entity are not feasible, I asked the Committee to study the possibility of forming our own company. The principal concept of insurance is a spreading of the risk of loss among a greater number of participants. Since all of our facilities will be located here in North Carolina, that might not be considered to be a large enough group or might not be as widely-dispersed from a geographic standpoint as is recommended.

Our own agency

If self-insuring or our own company are not feasible, I asked the Committee to study the possibility of organizing our own agency. As an attorney, I know that Lawyers Insurance Agency in Raleigh was created by or with the support of the North Carolina Bar Association. I feel certain that this was done either to save money for its insureds, or to make money for its owner, or both. If we could form our own agency, it might be that we could save on the agent's commissions, and pass those savings on to our subordinate Lodges.

Regional or national entity

If a single state is considered to be too small, I asked the Committee to study the feasibility of organizing some entity on a regional or national basis, perhaps through the Masonic Service Association or the Conference of Grand Masters. I long have felt that the Freemasons of the United States are missing out on many benefits that would follow from closer coordination and cooperation. There are great efficiencies and economies of scale, and other benefits, that we could accomplish and gain through interstate cooperation.

Proper coverage at least cost

I asked the Committee to try to determine how we can obtain the proper

insurance coverage at the least possible expense. I asked the Committee to be creative, and to consider every possible manner of obtaining proper coverage at the lowest cost. Other questions include: Are there any premium discounts available? Are any premium discounts or reductions available if, for example, smoking was not permitted in our facilities?

Conclusion

Under the very dedicated and capable leadership of Bro. Burti this year, the Committee has made great progress in addressing all of these issues and concerns. Obviously, a task of such a great magnitude as this one takes time to accomplish. In the Fall of 1999, the Committee distributed a survey to the subordinate Lodges, seeking information as to their insurance coverage and costs. The Committee has been reviewing and compiling that data. As might be expected, the survey has revealed many deficiencies, both in coverage and amount.

Recommendations

I recommend that *The Code* be amended, and that the Special Committee on Insurance be changed to a Standing Committee, and that if necessary in order to avoid overlap and duplication, it be consolidated with one or more other Commissions or Committees, and its duties and responsibilities be reassigned.

I recommend that the Committee on Insurance have a membership of not less than 15, and not more than 21.

I recommend that the Grand Master appoint the Chairman of the Committee.

I recommend that the Committee continue the work that it has begun to review all aspects of our insurance coverage and costs, and make any recommendations deemed appropriate.

Special Committee on Strategic Planning

For several years, we have been dabbling with Long Range Planning. For one period, all of the Grand Lodge Line Officers were deemed to constitute a Long Range Planning Committee. For another period, the Grand Lodge Line Officers continued to serve, but were supplemented by other brethren. One year, it was agreed that the Senior Grand Warden should Chair the Committee, only to have the next Grand Master change that. Constant changes in leadership and personnel are highly disruptive, and have an extremely negative effect on our fraternity. With all of the issues and problems confronting Freemasonry today, it is absolutely critical and imperative that we get serious about planning, and that we do so immediately. We need to establish a planning committee, and then leave it alone for several years in order to do its job.

Strategic planning involves identifying the problems confronting Freemasonry, and devising ways to resolve them. Yes, that means that we may have to change some of the ways that we have been operating in the past. A wise person has noted that *the only thing constant is change*. The world in which Freemasonry must thrive is constantly changing around us. Consider advances such as home computers, the internet, and email. Just a few years ago, they did not even exist.

The challenge facing our fraternity today is to manage change in such a way that it meets the needs of the future, while maintaining the fundamentals of Freemasonry. In order to do that, we must develop a strategic plan. A man trying to sell me some life insurance once told me that most people *don't plan to fail; they just fail to plan*. The same thing can be said about any organization. I am firmly convinced that it is absolutely critical to our continued survival as an organization that we become involved in strategic planning.

In response to these concerns, after consulting with the three Officers in Line behind me I appointed a new Special Committee on Strategic Planning. W. William Burkett of French Broad No. 292, in Marshall, agreed to chair it. We are extremely fortunate to obtain the benefit of Bro. Burkett's talents and expertise, since he has spent his entire career in the field of strategic marketing. To this Committee we also appointed other brethren with significant planning experience or who otherwise had demonstrated the ability to think critically and creatively.

In 1994, the Masonic Renewal Committee of North America produced a step-by-step guide for Grand Lodges for *Developing a Strategic Plan for the 21st Century*, subtitled *A Renewal Blueprint for Masonic Grand Lodges in North America*. According to the Masonic Renewal Committee, if there is a single behavior found in the best run corporations and in the preeminent volunteer organizations, that behavior is related to *planning for the future*. *Long range planning* merely plans for events in coming years. *Strategic planning*, on the other hand, actively plans the strategies necessary for the organization to survive and prosper.

Conclusion

I obtained and furnished to each Grand Lodge Line Officer, and to the members of the Strategic Planning Committee, copies of the material and guidelines for Grand Lodge Strategic Planning available from the Masonic Renewal Committee of North America. The Committee has met several times this year, to establish its goals and procedures.

At my suggestion, the Chairman organized it into subcommittees created on a geographic basis, in order to minimize travel and related expense. Notwithstanding, there has been some expense involved in this effort, and, as no funds were included in the Grand Lodge budget for this function, the members have borne most of their own expenses personally.

I would like to acknowledge and thank the members of this Committee for their dedicated service, and also for their personal sacrifices of time and resources.

Recommendations

I recommend that *The Code* be amended, and that the Special Committee on Strategic Planning be added as a Standing Committee.

I recommend that the Committee on Strategic Planning have a membership of not less than 25, and not more than 60, including the best and brightest minds in our fraternity, and ensuring geographic diversity and a broad range of representation.

I recommend that the Grand Master appoint the Chairman of the Committee.

I recommend that the Committee be left alone for several years, and not disturbed, in order to enable it to accomplish its objectives.

I recommend that the Committee continue the work that it has begun to identify and study the issues and problems confronting Freemasonry, and to develop a strategic plan to respond to each of them adequately in order to ensure the continued survival and success of Freemasonry in this Grand Jurisdiction.

I recommend that the Committee be given its own individual line item in the Grand Lodge annual operating budget, and that a monetary appropriation sufficient to cover the expenses of this Committee be added to and included in the Grand Lodge budget.

I recommend that any materials or resources reasonably deemed appropriate and necessary by the Committee be purchased and paid for by the Grand Lodge and provided to them.

I recommend that, once it has made sufficient progress in strategic planning for the Grand Lodge, the Committee expand its mission and role, and provide the training and support to the subordinate Lodges to enable them, also, to pursue strategic planning.

Special Committee on Patriotism and Americanism

I was born on the 4th of July. I now have nearly 30 years of service to my country in the Naval Reserve. I love the flag of our country. I revere it, and it hurts me deeply to see it being abused. Our fraternity honors our country and our flag. We pledge our allegiance to it every time we open our Lodges. I would like to see us develop some program to try to restore our nation's sense of pride and patriotism that we seem largely to have lost.

As noted elsewhere in this Report, our membership rolls grew rapidly in the years following World War II, as the veterans returned home and resumed their lives. They are the men who NBC News Anchor Tom Brokaw called *The Greatest Generation*, in his book by that name. Sadly, their ranks are thinning now, as they are admitted into the celestial Lodge above. These men saved the world from despotism. We have honored many of them with our Grand Lodge 50-Year Veterans Award. However, I would like to do more to acknowledge the great debt that we owe their generation—and to all of our Masonic military veterans, of all generations.

This year I appointed a new Special Committee on Patriotism and Americanism. Brother Corbett L. Quinn, now Senior Warden of Rehoboth No. 279, in Rose Hill, agreed to chair it. Bro. Quinn is a retired Medical Doctor, and is retired from the North Carolina National Guard in the grade of Colonel and as State Surgeon. I appointed to the Committee a number of highly patriotic brethren, primarily from Cumberland County, Duplin County, and Onslow County. Despite having no funds in the Grand Lodge budget for this purpose, and having to do so totally at their own personal expense, these patriots met numerous times.

The one event that I asked them to hold was a dinner honoring our Masonic military veterans. I am greatly pleased to report that such a dinner was held—most appropriately—on November 11, 1999, at the Pope Air Force Base Club in Fayetteville. Major General Dan McNeill, Commanding General of the 82nd Airborne Division, and a high school friend of mine, was the guest speaker. Special recognition was given to our brethren who had received the Medal of Honor, Purple Heart, and other high decorations, as well as those who had been prisoners of war. A large number of them were in the crowd of over 100 attendees. They seemed greatly to appreciate the recognition, and everyone seemed to enjoy the evening.

Doctor and Brother Charles Van Gorder of Andrews, a Past Potentate of Oasis Temple, and who was featured in Mr. Brokaw's book, was invited, but because of declining health was unable to attend. However, those present did enjoy a videotape greeting from Mr. Brokaw to Brother Van Gorder. Bro. Jacklyn Lucas, of Orr No. 104 in Washington, now residing in Mississippi, also was invited, but was unable to attend. Bro. Lucas served in the Marine Corps, and fought on Iwo Jima. He awarded the Medal of Honor at age 17, and is the youngest person ever to receive it.

Conclusion

I would like to acknowledge and thank Bro. Quinn and all of the members of this Committee for their dedication and all of their hard work. They are a real inspiration to me. They are my heroes.

Recommendations

I recommend that *The Code* be amended, and that the Special Committee on Patriotism and Americanism be added as a Standing Committee.

I recommend that the Committee on Patriotism and Americanism have a membership of not less than 15, and not more than 30, including the most patriotic men in our fraternity, and ensuring geographic diversity and a broad range of representation.

I recommend that the Grand Master appoint the Chairman of the Committee.

I recommend that the Committee continue the work that it has begun to develop and sponsor programs to emphasize and encourage Patriotism and Americanism in our fraternity and Grand Jurisdiction.

I recommend that the Committee be given its own individual line item in the Grand Lodge annual operating budget, and that a monetary appropriation sufficient to cover the expenses of this Committee be added to and included in the Grand Lodge budget.

I recommend that any materials or resources reasonably deemed appropriate and necessary by the Committee be purchased and paid for by the Grand Lodge and provided to them.

I recommend that, once it has made sufficient progress in its efforts on a jurisdiction-wide basis, the Committee expand its mission and role, and assist and provide support to the subordinate Lodges in planning and implementing programs encouraging Patriotism and Americanism.

Special Committee on Culture and Diversity

The controversial issue of recognition of Prince Hall Masonry in North Carolina has revealed the existence of racial hatred and bigotry in our fraternity. Everyone who is familiar with the principles and tenets of Freemasonry well knows that such beliefs and conduct are the very antithesis of Freemasonry. However, our fraternity obtains its members from society at large, and perhaps it should not be unexpected that these men harbor and reflect many of the beliefs and attitudes which exist in society as a whole.

Of course, we claim that we take good men and make them better. We give them Light, and more Light, and further Light. Therefore, our members are expected to exemplify the principles and tenets of Freemasonry, and to demonstrate in their daily lives that they have learned the true lessons of Freemasonry. Ideally, our members are supposed to believe and act in the manner of what a Freemason is supposed to be. Sadly, that is not always the case. It has become very obvious that we have too many members who are NOT Freemasons! It also has become extremely obvious that we have not succeeded in teaching all of our members the true lessons and tenets of Freemasonry.

To try to improve that problem, this year I appointed a Special Committee on Culture and Diversity. W. David Cash, of Campbell No. 374 in Troutman, and Past Grand Chaplain (1998-1999) agreed to accept the Chairmanship of this Committee. A former football player at the University of South Carolina, Bro. Cash is an ordained Methodist Minister, and shared a powerful message with us at the Prayer Breakfast in 1999, entitled *Don't Forget Your Feet*. To this Committee, I appointed a number of other enlightened and fair-minded brethren who have demonstrated their adherence to true Masonic principles and *The Brotherhood of Man Under the Fatherhood of God*.

Conclusion

I deeply regret that I have not had the time to provide the guidance and direction that was needed, and this Committee has not progressed past the formative stage. However, experience this year has shown that this is a very badly needed Committee, and one which can provide great benefit to our fraternity.

Recommendations

I recommend that *The Code* be amended, and that the Special Committee on Culture and Diversity be added as a Standing Committee.

I recommend that the Committee on Culture and Diversity have a membership of not less than 15, and not more than 30, including the most dedicated Masons in our fraternity, and ensuring geographic diversity and a broad range of representation.

I recommend that the Grand Master appoint the Chairman of the Committee.

I recommend that the Committee study the matter of racial and cultural diversity, and develop and sponsor programs to promote a greater understanding and acceptance by our members of the true principles and tenets of Freemasonry.

I recommend that the Committee study the problem of racial hatred and bigotry in our fraternity, and develop and sponsor programs to eliminate and eradicate it.

I recommend that the Committee be given its own individual line item in the Grand Lodge annual operating budget, and that a monetary appropriation sufficient to cover the expenses of this Committee be added to and included in the Grand Lodge budget.

I recommend that any materials or resources reasonably deemed appropriate and necessary by the Committee be purchased and paid for by the Grand Lodge and provided to them.

I recommend that, once it has made sufficient progress in its efforts on a jurisdiction-wide basis, the Committee expand its mission and role, and assist and provide support to the subordinate Lodges in planning and offering programs seeking to increase our understanding and sensitivity of racial and cultural diversity, and further seeking to eliminate and eradicate racial hatred and bigotry in our members and in our fraternity.

Special Committee on Awards and Recognitions

The highest award which our Grand Lodge bestows is the Joseph Montfort Medal. Reg. 80-1 provides that this honor is given for *distinguished Masonic service or achievement*. The award is restricted to Master Masons, and each Grand Master may present only three in any one term.

Although we present awards for 70 and 75 years of membership, there are no special provisions in *The Code* for them. Reg. 80-2 establishes the Diamond Jubilee Veteran's Award, which is presented to those brethren who have achieved a total of 60 years of membership. Reg. 80-3 establishes the Veteran's Emblem for 50 years of membership. And Reg. 80-4 establishes the Service Award for 25 years of membership. Currently, Lodges may participate in the Grand Masters 5-Star Award Program, but that program has not been established formally in *The Code*.

The Grand Lodge has no other honors or awards that it bestows. That disturbs me. We have many, many brethren and Lodges which are very deserving of recognition. Many of our brethren are actively engaged on a regular basis in serving their fellow human beings and their communities. Yet we focus our awards primarily on longevity of membership only.

For those reasons, this year I appointed a Special Committee on Awards and Recognitions. I appointed W. Floyd L. ("Butch") Trimmer, DDGL in the 29th Masonic District. Bro. Trimmer is retired from the U.S. Army in the grade of Colonel, and is employed at Fayetteville State University. To this Committee I appointed a number of other dedicated brethren, who have experience in the awards programs of other organizations, including the military, academic institutions, and others.

I asked the Committee to study the issue of awards, and to make recommendations for a new program of awards and recognitions for our members, our Lodges, and even members of the general public who we may desire to recognize. I asked the Committee to review the honors, awards and recognitions given by other organizations, and to develop a system of awards adopting the best features of such others.

Conclusion

Bro. Trimmer and several other members of the Committee devoted a great deal of thought and effort to the development of an awards program for our Grand Lodge. The Committee met to discuss and consider the proposed program, and to assist me in reviewing the nominations and selecting the brethren, Lodges, and others to be honored with awards or otherwise recognized. The Committee also assisted in the printing and preparation of the various awards and recognitions that were presented. This is an important committee, and one which we have needed very badly as a part of the programs and activities of our Grand Lodge.

Recommendations

I recommend that *The Code* be amended, and that the Special Committee on Awards and Recognitions be added as a Standing Committee.

I recommend that the Committee on Awards and Recognitions have a membership of not less than 11, and not more than 21, including dedicated Masons who are knowledgeable in the area of awards and recognitions.

I recommend that the Grand Master appoint the Chairman of the Committee.

I recommend that the Committee continue to study and review the matter of awards and recognitions, and continue the efforts that it has begun to develop an active program of awards and recognitions for our Grand Lodge.

I recommend that the Committee be given its own individual line item in the Grand Lodge annual operating budget, and that a monetary appropriation sufficient to cover the expenses of this Committee be added to and included in the Grand Lodge budget.

I recommend that any materials or resources reasonably deemed appropriate and necessary by the Committee be purchased and paid for by the Grand Lodge and provided to them.

I recommend that, once it has made sufficient progress in its efforts on a jurisdiction-wide basis, the Committee expand its mission and role, and assist and provide support to the subordinate Lodges in their awards and recognitions programs.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Masonic Leadership Development Task Force

As we have seen with our video and the Program for Progress notebook—and, yes, even with our Lodge Night Program last year and this year—all of the Masonic Education in the world will accomplish nothing unless we have well-trained and dedicated Masonic leaders, both in the Craft Lodges and in the Grand Lodge. Without such leadership, all of our materials simply will sit on a shelf and accumulate dust. *The Program for Progress* contains some material on Masonic leadership. However, we need to build on that program.

A great deal of leadership material is available to us, from several Masonic as well as other sources. We need to obtain as much of this material as possible, and then design an expanded Masonic Leadership Development

program. We need to develop a notebook for the DDGMs and DDGLs, in which we explain to them the requirements of their offices. We also need to develop a notebook for the Masters and Officers of our subordinate Lodges, in which we explain to each of them the requirements of their respective jobs.

We have many good men in positions of leadership. However, simply occupying a chair or an office does not make one a good leader. Many of our members have never been in the military, or otherwise received any training or experience in leadership. We need to give these men—and any and all other interested brethren—the information, materials and skills to enable them to become good, effective leaders. Our members and our fraternity deserve no less!

After consulting with the three Officers in Line behind me, this year I appointed a new Grand Lodge Masonic Leadership Task Force. W. Dr. James Earl Vann, C.L., PDDGL, of St. John's No. 1 in Wilmington, agreed to chair it. We are extremely fortunate to obtain the benefit of Dr. Vann's skills and experience, as his career has been spent in adult education and management. To this Committee we also appointed other brethren with significant experience in the areas of leadership development and training. The Task Force has operated semi-independently this year, under the auspices of the Committee on Masonic Education, pursuant to Reg. 30-5.1.

Although organized relatively late last year, the Task Force has worked very hard to plan and create a Masonic Leadership Development Program for us. Due to time constraints, we agreed that it would be best if we utilized materials already available, rather than trying to create some of our own. Doctor and Brother Dudley Davis, a professor of management and organizational behavior in the graduate school at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, is a prominent and prolific Masonic author and consultant. One series of his Masonic Leadership materials was selected for our initial efforts.

I have urged the Task Force to offer as much training as possible this year in the area of Masonic Leadership. Again on relatively short notice, the Task Force planned and conducted a Masonic Leadership Workshop at the Masonic Temple in Greensboro on January 22, 2000. In keeping with my stated goal of enhancing the offices of the DDGMs and DDGLs, this workshop was presented primarily for their benefit. Over half of the DDGMs and DDGLs attended. Copies of Bro. Davis' materials were purchased by the Grand Lodge, and provided to the DDGMs. In the afternoon, a break-out session was conducted by the Board of Custodians for the DDGLs.

A two-hour block of Masonic Leadership Development training was offered at each of the Winter Area Masonic Education Seminars that were held at various sites around the state on February 12 and 19. This training was intended for the officers and members of our subordinate Lodges, and the seminars generally were well-attended.

The Masonic Leadership Development Task Force also participated in a second DDGM/DDGL Workshop held on the campus of the Masonic Home for Children in Oxford, on March 25, 2000. The morning session focused on our two Homes and the North Carolina Masonic Foundation. The afternoon session featured leadership training for the DDGMs and DDGLs, and there also was a break-out session for the DDGLs with the Board of Custodians.

I also requested the Task Force to offer a program of leadership training, aimed primarily at the Craft Lodge Officers, in conjunction with the Annual Communication in Raleigh. This presentation was offered in a three-hour block on the afternoon of April 27. Dr. and Bro. Dudley Davis graciously and generously agreed to join us and to conduct the instruction personally, at no charge to our Grand Lodge. Additionally, he agreed to

bring a sufficient supply of his materials to enable all interested brethren to purchase their own personal copies.

Conclusion

I would like to acknowledge and thank the members of the Masonic Leadership Development Task Force for all of their hard work and sacrifice this year. I also would like to thank the members of the Task Force and the other brethren who made presentations on each of these occasions, as well as the DDGMs, the DDGLs, and each and every brother who attended. Recognition and thanks are due also to the brethren in Greensboro for allowing us the use of their excellent facility, as well as each Lodge which hosted the Winter Area Masonic Education Seminars.

I also would like to acknowledge and thank the members of the Boards of Directors of our two Homes, as well as the management and staff, for the support that they provided to this effort. Unfortunately, there were no funds in the Grand Lodge budget for leadership training, and the two Homes agreed to sponsor and pay the lodging and related expenses for the programs on January 22 and March 25. It is obvious that the success of our charities depends in large part on the dedication of our members in supporting them financially. Helping our officers to become better leaders is a wise investment by our charities, and a prudent stewardship of their resources. However, the Grand Lodge should bear that portion of the costs of Masonic Leadership Development training attributable to fraternal purposes.

Recommendations

I recommend that *The Code* be amended, and that the Masonic Leadership Development Task Force be added as a Standing Committee on Masonic Leadership Development.

I recommend that the Committee have a membership of not less than 15, and not more than 30, including dedicated Masons who are knowledgeable in the areas of leadership and training.

I recommend that the Grand Master appoint the Chairman of the Committee.

I recommend that the Committee continue the efforts that it has begun to develop a comprehensive and aggressive program of Masonic Leadership Development.

I recommend that the Committee be given its own individual line item in the Grand Lodge annual operating budget, and that a monetary appropriation sufficient to cover the expenses of this Committee be added to and included in the Grand Lodge budget.

I recommend that any materials or resources reasonably deemed appropriate and necessary by the Committee be purchased and paid for by the Grand Lodge and provided to them.

I recommend that at least one, but no more than two, Masonic Leadership Conferences be scheduled and held each year—at sites conveniently located across the state—for the Grand Lodge Leadership, including the members of the Boards, Commissions and Committees, as well as the DDGMs and the DDGLs.

I recommend that at least two, but preferably more, Masonic Leadership Workshops be scheduled and held each year—again, at sites conveniently located across the state—for the Masters, Officers and Committees of our subordinate Lodges, as well as for any and all brethren who may be interested in improving their leadership skills. These workshops should include break-out sessions at which the attendees may focus on the requirements and needs of their respective offices or positions.

I recommend that we work with the Scottish Rite, York Rite, Shrine,

Eastern Star, and other organizations in the *Masonic family*, to co-sponsor Leadership Development training. The basic principles of Leadership are applicable to all organizations. In this manner, we could enhance communications and relations between and among our organizations, and at the same time share, and thereby reduce, the costs of the training.

Grand Lodge Institutions and Agencies

Our Grand Lodge has three institutions and agencies for which it has responsibilities: *The Masonic Home for Children at Oxford, Inc.*; the *Masonic and Eastern Star Home of North Carolina, Incorporated*; and *The North Carolina Masonic Foundation, Incorporated*. All three entities are incorporated under the laws of the State of North Carolina, and all three are what is known as a nonprofit corporation, which basically means that none of its income or property may inure to the benefit of a private individual. All three entities have been granted tax exempt status by the U.S. Internal Revenue Service, pursuant to Sec. 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code. Additionally, all three entities have been granted certain tax exemptions pursuant to State law.

The North Carolina laws pertaining to business corporations are found in Chapter 55 of the General Statutes, and the laws regarding nonprofit corporations are found in Chapter 55A. Many of the laws pertaining to business corporations expressly are applicable to nonprofit corporations. With a few rare exceptions, every North Carolina corporation is required to have a Board of Directors. G.S. 55A-8-01(b) provides in pertinent part that *all corporate powers shall be exercised by or under the authority of, and the affairs of the corporation managed under the direction of, its board of directors*.

Under North Carolina law, the Board of Directors of a corporation is its governing body. Directors have certain legal duties, known as *fiduciary* duties. The primary duty of a Director is *good faith*. According to one noted authority, *It demands that he always discharge his duties honestly, conscientiously, fairly, and with undivided loyalty to the corporation*. Good faith alone is not the limit of a Director's obligation. Directors also have a duty of *due care*. Directors are not allowed to be mere *figureheads*. They are under a positive duty to direct and supervise the affairs of the corporation with diligence and care. The duty of due care means that a Director has an obligation to conduct himself *with the care an ordinarily prudent person in a like position would exercise under similar circumstances*. As mentioned above, Directors also have a duty of *loyalty* to the corporation, and are required to act *in a manner he reasonably believes to be in the best interests of the corporation*. Directors can be held legally liable for violation of these duties.

It is a very serious matter to serve as a Director of a corporation. In the past, it has appeared to me that the Directors of our three corporations were not sufficiently aware of their legal duties and liability. Based on my observation and experience, meeting for two or three or even four hours every three months simply is not adequate for the Boards to fulfill their legal obligations. It is not sufficient merely to sit at the table, and accept the material and information provided by the staff. The Directors have a duty to ask questions and to make comments. This year, I sought to expand the Directors' understanding of their legal role, and also to enhance the information and material provided to the Board members to enable them to do their jobs properly.

At the Home in Greensboro, we were able to schedule a presentation by an attorney in the firm with Brother James G. Exum, Jr., a member of Guilford No. 656 in Greensboro, and the retired Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of North Carolina. This session heightened the awareness

of the members of that Board as to their duties and responsibilities.

On January 8, 2000, a joint meeting was held at Millbrook No. 97 in Raleigh, to which were invited the Boards of Directors of the two Homes, the Foundation, the Grand Lodge, the Scottish Rite, York Rite, Eastern Star and Shrine. The guest speaker was Bro. Robert A. Lyons, a CPA in Bethesda, Maryland, who is a nationally-recognized expert on tax exempt nonprofit organizations. On February 25-27, 2000, a joint planning retreat was held for the Boards of our three Masonic Charities, where Bro. Lyons spoke again on the Internal Revenue Code, the IRS, and the requirements imposed on our corporations. Two other sessions totalling approximately six hours were devoted to Board Development, and were led by Dr. Wayne Clark, a consultant in such matters.

These two meetings were extremely successful, in that they served to provide additional information and material to our Board members and leadership, and to increase their awareness of legal and other requirements. I feel that our Boards and leadership are more harmonious and united than ever before, and that we are poised on the brink of a new era of progress in our Charities.

Improvements in salaries and compensation

In October 1997, while meeting to formulate the 1998 Annual Operating Budget for the Home at Oxford, Bro. Dan Rice and I discussed the fact that many of our employees there were sorely underpaid. Some of the cottage counselors were receiving only \$12-14,000 per year, hardly above the poverty level. As might be expected, the Home was experiencing a significant amount of personnel turnover, which always has a negative impact. Bro. Rice, an alumnus of the Home, and I agreed that the salaries of our employees at Oxford should be raised to the median average over a period of three years. The first one-third incremental increase was included in the budget for 1998. As discussed hereinbelow, the retirement program for all of our employees was changed in 1999, which resulted in a decreased retirement contribution by the Homes. Partly in order to offset that, the remaining two-thirds salary increases were implemented in 1999.

While endeavoring to maintain costs at the Home in Greensboro, careful attention has been given to the adequacy of the salaries paid to our employees. Greensboro and Guilford County are high-cost areas, and very competitive. We have found that other homes love to hire our employees, because they are so well-trained.

I am pleased to report that applicable salary studies have been reviewed, and the salaries at both of our Homes are believed to be at or just slightly above the median average—just about in the middle of the pack, where we want to be.

One other point worthy of note is that the trend in nonprofit organizations is to modernize the chief executive's title, from *Administrator* to *Executive Director*.

Improvements in retirement program

A few years ago, during the term of Grand Master Bill Simpson, I believe it was, a meeting of the Trustees of our retirement program was held at the Home in Greensboro following a meeting of the Board of Directors there. The Grand Lodge Officers present were invited to attend the Trustees' meeting, at which presentations were made by the men administering the program. Several of us were shocked when we learned the nature of our retirement program. The so-called administrators of the plan appeared to be nothing more than glorified insurance salesmen. It was very obvious that our employees did not have the retirement security that they deserve. It also was very obvious that the plan was not very favorable to our Masonic

institutions. We were contributing 11% of each employee's salary to the retirement plan, with no required contribution by the employees.

It was agreed that we needed to obtain the services of a professional to advise us on our retirement program. A very well-known and highly-respected Greensboro firm was selected, and they reviewed our program, provided information on legal and other requirements, and shared recommendations. After much study and deliberation, it was decided to convert our retirement program to a 401(k) plan. In this type of plan, the employer contributes an agreed amount; the employee is free to contribute a portion of his or her salary; and the employer then matches that contribution in an agreed amount.

I am extremely proud of the fact that by converting to a 401(k) retirement plan, we were able to reduce our employers' contributions from 11%, to the general average of 5-6%, but never more than 9%, as I recall thereby saving approximately \$200,000 in the first year alone. Another desirable aspect of the new plan is that it allows the employees to make some decisions as to how their money is invested. Also, longevity increases were included in the plan, as an incentive to encourage our employees to remain, thereby reducing turn-over.

The support of Past Grand Masters Gerry Smith and Tom Gregory, and the dedicated leadership of Bro. Dan Rice, in these efforts must not go unacknowledged here.

Improvements to investment policy

In the past, the Boards of both Homes have designated the Masonic Foundation to manage and invest the endowment funds of the Homes. There is absolutely no question that the Foundation has produced a great return on our money—believed to be 20-28% annually—perhaps even doubling our endowment in less than 10 years. However, our Foundation has not been equipped with the accounting and other capabilities needed to manage a combined portfolio which exceeds \$40 million. The actual rate of return, and the actual costs to the portfolio, have not been known.

W. Frederick E. Oglesby, of Skewarkee No. 90 in Williamston, is a banker, and chaired the Finance Committee of the Home at Oxford this year. Upon investigating, he discovered that we paid over \$100,000 in trading commissions, fees and costs on our funds managed by the Masonic Foundation, and that a number of institutions had indicated that their management fees would have been much lower. The situation at Greensboro was felt to be much the same.

The Boards of both Homes decided to review their investment policies, and to make some changes. The Board at Oxford agreed to place a portion of its endowment with two banks to manage and invest. The Board at Greensboro agreed to place a portion of its endowment with a brokerage house to manage and invest, and they in turn placed a part of these funds with three different money managers. However, after an experience of one year, it does not appear that either of these efforts has resulted in any significant improvement at either Home.

The Boards at both Homes are continuing their efforts to identify the best possible resource for the investment and management of our endowment portfolio. I would like to acknowledge and especially thank Brothers Oglesby, Charles E. ("Gene") Shope, and Angus W. Mercer, for their dedicated and continuing efforts in this regard.

Threats to tax-exempt status

In 1998, the North Carolina Supreme Court voided the law which granted preferential tax exempt treatment to private nonprofit retirement homes. As a result, our Home received a letter from the Guilford County Tax

Assessor, indicating his intention to bill us for back taxes. For three years, our property was valued at \$9 million, and for three more years it was valued at \$10.5 million. The association to which our Home belongs was able to obtain some temporary legislation, declaring a moratorium on the issue until it could be studied. We remain optimistic that resolution favorable to our Home will be the final result. The Administrator responded to this problem very quickly, and has continued to monitor it carefully and keep the Board apprised.

This experience is a prime example of the fact that no longer can we afford to operate in a vacuum. We must be aware of developments and changes going on around us.

The Masonic Home for Children at Oxford, Inc.

Most of our members know that our Masonic Home for Children in Oxford was established by vote of the delegates at the Annual Communication in 1872, on the grounds of the old St. John's College that our fraternity had operated before the Civil War. After the war, there were a greater number of orphans, and children whose parents simply could not care for them. We received our first children in February 1873. Our Home was the first children's home in North Carolina, and is the oldest Masonic children's home in the United States. We have every right to be justifiably proud of this worthy cause.

On December 11, 1895, the Superior Court of Granville County granted a Charter to the Home, then known as the *Oxford Orphan Asylum*. In Chapter 132 of the Private Acts of the 1897 General Assembly, the North Carolina Legislature confirmed and amended the Charter. In Chapter 119 of the Private Acts of the 1923 General Assembly, ratified February 27, 1923, the Legislature again amended the Charter, changing the name to *Oxford Orphanage*. On November 13, 1973, Articles of Amendment were filed with the North Carolina Secretary of State, restating and amending the Charter. On February 15, 1995, Articles of Amendment to the Charter were filed in the Office of the Secretary of State for North Carolina, changing the name to *The Masonic Home for Children at Oxford, Inc.*

In order to improve upon the governance of the Home, it was my goal to have the Board meet every two months. The Board met in Oxford on May 7, 1999; July 9, 1999; September 11, 1999; and February 11, 2000. It met at the Masonic and Eastern Star Home in Greensboro on November 12, 1999. As noted hereinabove, I wanted to ensure that each Board visited the campus of the other Home, in order to try to promote our two Homes.

Monthly reports to Lodges

For 30 years, I have heard the Masters of my Lodge go through the recommended order of business contained in the Bahnson Manual, and when he calls for reports from the Committee on the Masonic Home for Children, the Secretary replies, "We don't have any, Worshipful." I am sure that it is much the same in many, if not most, Lodges. I wanted to change that this year.

We ask our members and our Lodges to support our Masonic Charities with their financial contributions, yet—in my opinion—we do not do an adequate job of sharing information with them and telling them about our Charities. We need to try to provide our members as much information as possible on our Homes.

In the past, the Administrator of the Home has prepared written reports which he presents to the Boards of Directors at its quarterly meetings. Without much additional effort, these reports could be prepared on a monthly basis. I asked the Administrator to do this, and to mail copies to the Chairmen of the Committee on the Masonic Home for Children at

each Lodge. The names and addresses of the Lodge Committee Chairmen have been added to the information data base at the Home. However, the monthly reports never were produced.

Regular reports on children sponsored

Some of the children at our Home write to their sponsoring Lodges from time to time. I would like to see this done on a more regular basis. Again, we need to provide as much information as possible to our members and our Lodges who support us.

Our Lodges which sponsor children at our Home also have a responsibility to write to those children. I have received several reports this year from our children that they have written to their Lodges, and the Lodges have not written back. That needs to change.

Regular liaison with Lodge Committees

Through the courtesy and financial support of the Campus Trackers Club, our student newspaper, *Campus Tracks*, is being mailed to every Lodge each time a new issue is printed. We need to provide more information about our Homes to our Lodges.

I would like to expand the activities of the Lodge Committees on the Homes. Last year, we initiated a DDGMs workshop, alternating annually between our two Homes. This year, the number of workshops has been increased to two, and they have been expanded to include the DDGLs. This was done to ensure that all of our DDGMs and DDGLs have visited both of our Homes, and are familiar with their operations. I would like to see this program expanded to include workshops for the Chairmen of our Lodge Committees on the Homes.

Support for Lodge fund-raising activities

I would like for us to provide more training for our Lodges in their fund-raising activities. Since we ask our Lodges to help us with their financial contributions, we need to provide them all the support that we can to help them in their fund-raising efforts.

Masonic Student Assistance Program (MSAP)

The Masonic Model Student Assistance Training Program was initiated in Pennsylvania in the early 1980s by a Freemason who was a Juvenile Court Judge, and who was alarmed by the troubled children who he saw in his Courtroom on a daily basis. Although the original goal was to prevent drug and alcohol abuse, the Program developed by Brothers Thom Stecher and Larry Newman, both former educators, now has expanded to address pregnancy, suicide, and other problems for which some youth are at risk.

There is probably no one in this country who is not aware of our nation's drug and alcohol abuse problem. In one recent study, 32% of those surveyed between the ages of 12 and 17 named drugs as the greatest problem for people their age. Another study indicated that drug use among high school students is on the rise. One in four high school sophomores, and one in three high school seniors, had smoked marijuana at least once in the previous year, a substantial increase from previous years. The same survey found that use of cocaine, crack, hallucinogenic drugs, heroin and stimulants was also rising slightly, for the second consecutive year.

Of all the approaches being tried to combat these problems, the Masonic Model Student Assistance Training Program is the best prevention program available. After attending the training offered by the Grand Lodge of Illinois, one teacher stated: "In my 20 years of teaching, this is the most inspiring and practical program I have ever been involved with to help kids. It really works."

In the Masonic Model Student Assistance Training program focusing on prevention, heavy training emphasis is placed on identification, which means learning how to identify those children who are at risk of using drugs—hopefully, before they begin addictive use. It systematically puts caring adults together with children in pain. Equally heavy training emphasis is placed on assistance. Once the identification is made, there are several appropriate actions to take to intervene in and interrupt the addictive cycle.

As noted above, the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania has been involved in this program the longest. Today, they have a “Masonic Model” trained team in every educational jurisdiction in the state. Over 9,000 educators have been trained. In a recent year, they handled 71,617 referrals. Bear in mind that each one of those referrals represents a child in pain and a child headed for trouble. To date, 86% of those referrals have been fully successful, with no further problems, hard evidence that prevention works.

The Masonic Model Student Assistance Training Program has been tremendously successful, and has been adopted by over 17 Grand Jurisdictions in the United States and internationally. At their 1986 Conference, our Grand Masters authorized the creation of a National Masonic Foundation for Children. Headquartered in Washington, DC, our Masonic Foundation works very closely with national and state anti-drug agencies. The Executive Director, Brother Larry Chisholm, has even testified before Congress. In 1997, this Masonic Foundation was recognized by the White House as one of the key national service organizations effectively pursuing youth anti-drug efforts.

At my request, in 1998 the Grand Lodge and the Board of Directors at our Masonic Home for Children at Oxford agreed to offer the Masonic Model Student Assistance Training Program to North Carolina teachers and other school personnel. We are calling it the Masonic Student Assistance Program, or *MSAP*. Our initial session on March 23-25, 1999, was highly successful. Subsequent sessions have been held on September 28-30, 1999; November 9-11, 1999; February 22-24, 2000; and April 25-27, 2000. This program is being sponsored by the Masonic Home for Children, and all sessions have been, and will continue to be, held at Oxford.

Since 1991, the census at our Childrens' Home has fallen to around 120. Our capacity is approximately 200 children, and we could care for that many without adding significantly to our cost. We need more children, and there are so many children who need us. Yet, we are not receiving referrals from the very people—such as teachers—who most often come into contact with these children. If we can get some of those teachers to visit our campus, they definitely will be impressed with what they see, and they will remember us when they learn of a child who we can help.

Our sponsorship of the Masonic Model Student Assistance Training Program does not mean that we will alter our standards for admission to our Masonic Home for Children at Oxford. While we do accept many children who come from homes with a myriad of social problems, we do not accept children with problems stemming from drug use or abuse. Neither will we change our procedure of involving the local Lodges in the admissions process.

This program is good not only for our children, our families, and our state, but also for our Masonic Home for Children at Oxford and our fraternity. We have asked Lodges to form partnerships with their local schools, and to hold fund-raisers in their local communities, telling everyone that the profits will be used to send school teams to obtain this training. It is a *win-win-win* situation. The Lodges benefit from the increased favorable public exposure, and the schools and our children benefit from the training. A number of Lodges and Districts have sponsored local teams. The

program already has begun to pay dividends. In the very first class, a male teacher said that he had petitioned his local Lodge after learning that the Masons were sponsoring such a wonderful program. More and more teachers are returning home very favorably impressed by our campus, and we are receiving many more inquiries and referrals than before.

Conclusion

Despite the progress that has been made, I do not feel that the Board of Directors and management at the Masonic Home for Children are functioning at their optimum capacity. Several Directors have missed a number of meetings. We do not yet seem to have developed the degree of commitment that I feel is necessary in order to provide the best governance possible. Many of the Directors seem satisfied simply to attend the meetings and accept what is presented, which often is inadequate to enable the Board to make informed decisions.

In my opinion, the Board needs to review the mission and purpose of our children's home very carefully, and to decide if we want to remain in the business of child care, and if so, in what manner. I feel that if we are going to continue to provide child services, we need to change several aspects of our program.

Our Home is not licensed by the State. Since we existed long before licensure was required, we are exempt—for now. But we do not know how much longer that will be the case. There are several deficiencies which would prevent us from obtaining licensure, if it was required. Our staff-child ratio is too high. We need more staff for the number of children that we have. We have no women on the Board of Directors. There are others. It was my goal to bring our Home into compliance with all of the licensing requirements, in order to be fully prepared if required to become licensed. However, there seems to be little interest on the part of either the Board or management to accomplish this goal.

We provide long-term residential child care. We are not a treatment facility. For those reasons, our type of child care is not popular with the bureaucrats in Raleigh and child care professionals. As a result, we are not receiving referrals from Departments of Social Services and other agencies which help children in need. We are very proud of what we do, and the way we do it. We were the first ones in the child care business in North Carolina. However, the times have changed. Perhaps we need to change, too.

The Methodist Homes for Children, in Raleigh, has completely changed its programs. Now, rather than long-term residential child care, they have smaller group homes around the State. They also utilize social workers to work with the families, in order to try to solve the problems, and allow the children to return home. Again, times have changed. If we are not operating in accordance with the prevailing standards, then perhaps we, too, need to change.

I have received complaints from brethren that the parents of some of the children at our Home drive better cars than our members do. We admit some children simply because they cannot get along with a parent or step-parent. Some of these parents have the financial ability to support their children. Yet, we are asking the Freemasons of North Carolina to do it. I feel that we need to conduct a thorough review of our admissions policies, and that the Board needs to take a stronger role in the area of admissions.

Bro. Oglesby discovered that we have a number of Trusts and other restricted funds. Upon inquiry, no one seemed to know much about them. We now have obtained the professional services of a CPA to review the accounting and costs of administration of these funds by the Trustees. We also have retained Brother J. Clark Brewer, son of late Past Grand Master

James W. Brewer, as Special Legal Counsel for the Home, and Bro. Brewer is reviewing the legal status of these funds.

In my opinion, these problems—and others—were allowed to develop because no one in management nor on the Board was paying careful attention to these matters. We have made much progress and improvement this year, but we still have quite a ways to go before we get it right. There are still deficiencies in the leadership provided by the Board. In my opinion, part of that is directly due to the fact that the Grand Master, as Chairman, does not have the time to devote sufficient attention to the affairs of the Home. Further, one-third of the Directors change every year, as does the Chairman. The Chairman and one-third of the Board are preoccupied in learning a new job each year, and this impedes the continuity of the Board and its focus.

The Administrator was requested to implement an aggressive program of attending the annual meetings or state conventions of a number of organizations whose members could make referrals of children to our Home, but to my knowledge has failed to do so. In my opinion, we cannot afford to continue to operate a residential children's home indefinitely with such a census, or one even lower. It is not fair to our members, who we ask to contribute to support the Home financially. If the census continues at its present level, or lower, the Board will be required to consider other means by which to serve the children of this State.

When I brought this matter to the attention of the Board, its response was to vote to make Bro. Chris Richardson, the new Assistant Director of Development at the Home, responsible for recruiting more children. I strongly disagree with that action. It will have the negative result of diverting him from his Development duties. Bro. Richardson does not have a background in this field, and has much to learn. We should not be overburdening him with additional duties which will delay his progress. I also disagree with the action because it has the result of removing from the Administrator and Assistant Administrator the responsibility for recruiting and increasing the census.

At the last meeting of the Board, it was informed of another Trust Fund of which we had been unaware. The Board was informed that the fund was losing money, and that one of the other beneficiaries wanted to terminate it and divide the proceeds, with the Home's share being about \$5,000. No one in management had investigated to learn why the fund was losing money, whether the Trustee might be held legally liable, or the actual amount of the Home's share.

The Administrator at our Home in Oxford is a wonderful man, who is genuinely committed to our Home and our children. His public relations skills are excellent. Although progress has been made, there is still room for improvement in the management of our Home in Oxford.

We are indeed fortunate that we have many extremely caring and dedicated employees at our Home in Oxford. All of our employees—management and staff alike, constantly demonstrate a genuine love and concern for our residents, and provide them with the best care available. I would like to acknowledge and thank each and every one of our employees for their care and dedication.

Recommendations

I recommend that *The Code* be amended, to delete all provisions pertaining to the Masonic Home for Children at Oxford, and that the Grand Lodge discontinue its control and supervision of the Home, and allow the Board of Directors of the Home to select its own members, and to govern itself free from interference by the Grand Lodge. Contrary to what many of our members believe, the Grand Lodge does not *own* the Home, nor any part

of it. Continued control of the Home by the fraternity will serve to jeopardize the tax exempt status of the Home, among other deleterious effects.

If Grand Lodge control of the Home is not discontinued, then I recommend the following:

I recommend that Reg. 27-4 of *The Code* be amended, to increase the number of members of the Board of Directors, to not less than 15, nor more than 21.

I recommend that *The Code* be amended to allow women to serve on the Board of Directors of the Home. If deemed desirable, such participation could be limited to ladies who are members of the Eastern Star, our sister organization. A very successful precedent for such cooperation and participation already exists at our Home in Greensboro.

I recommend that Reg. 27-4.1.B of *The Code* be amended, to increase the term of the members of the Board of Directors, to not less than 4 years, nor more than 6.

I recommend that Reg. 27-4.3 of *The Code* be amended, to allow members of the Board of Directors to succeed themselves for one additional term, with subsequent reappointments when 12 months have elapsed since his last term of service expired.

I recommend that Reg. 27-4.4 of *The Code* be amended, to delete the restriction that not more than one member of the Board may have as his place of residence the same city or county.

I recommend that Reg. 27-4.1 of *The Code* be amended, to delete the provision that the Grand Master shall serve *ex officio* as a member and Chairman of the Board of Directors.

I recommend that Reg. 27-4.1 of *The Code* be amended, to delete the provision that the Deputy Grand Master and Senior and Junior Grand Wardens shall serve *ex officio* as members of the Board of Directors; and that, if representation by Grand Lodge Officers is desired, consideration be given to allowing some of the more junior officers to serve, thereby freeing the more senior officers to concentrate on the Grand Lodge and the needs of the fraternity.

I recommend that Reg. 34-18 of *The Code* be deleted, and that the Grand Lodge Committee on the Masonic Home for Children at Oxford be eliminated.

I recommend that the efforts which have been begun to give the Directors an increased awareness and knowledge of their legal duties and responsibilities, and to improve the governance of the Home, be continued.

I recommend that the efforts which have been begun to improve the quality of management at the Home be continued, and that, if necessary, the Home pay for college or other courses deemed appropriate, and that management be required to attend.

I recommend that the Board continue the efforts which it has begun to identify the best possible manner for the investment and management of the funds belonging to the Home.

I recommend that the Board continue the efforts which it has begun to obtain a clear understanding of the Trusts and other restricted and unrestricted funds owned by the Home; the accounting, administration and costs of the same; the true legal and financial status of such funds; and the legal and other rights of the Home with respect thereto.

I recommend that the Board and management continue the efforts that have been made to improve on both the quantity and the quality of the material and information that is furnished to the Board to enable it to provide the best possible governance and management of the affairs of the Home.

I recommend that the management of the Home prepare monthly reports on the activities at the Home, and provide copies to the members of the Board of Directors, the Grand Lodge Officers, the Past Grand Masters, and the Chairmen of the subordinate Lodge Committees on the Home.

I recommend that the management of the Home prepare regular reports on the activities, progress and condition of the children who are resident at the Home, and provide copies to the sponsoring Lodges and others deemed appropriate.

I recommend that the management of the Home establish a regular and on-going liaison and communication with the subordinate Lodges, through their Committees on the Home, on the activities and affairs of the Home.

I recommend that the management of the Home provide greater support to the subordinate Lodges in their fund-raising and other activities.

I recommend that the Home continue to offer the Masonic Student Assistance Program (MSAP) for the benefit of the children of the State of North Carolina.

I recommend that all employees, including both management and staff, be allowed to participate in the retirement program offered by the Home, and that the Home make no contribution to any other retirement plan or program.

I recommend that the management of the Home institute an aggressive program to remedy the declining census, and to recruit additional children for our Home.

I recommend that the job or position title of the *Administrator* be modernized and changed to *Executive Director*.

Masonic & Eastern Star Home of North Carolina, Incorporated

The seed that grew into the Masonic and Eastern Star Home in Greensboro was planted in 1904. After several years of germination, Articles of Incorporation were signed on April 1, 1910, and were filed with the North Carolina Secretary of State, who issued Certificate of Incorporation No. 8159 on June 18, 1910. A copy was filed in Corporations Book C, Page 279, Guilford County Register of Deeds. Certain amendments to the Charter were approved by the Grand Lodge on June 12, 1928, and received the assent of the Directors on March 5, 1929. On June 11, 1929, the amendments were filed with the North Carolina Secretary of State, who issued Certificate of Amendment No. 67939, and a copy was filed in Corporations Book H, Page 513, Guilford County Register of Deeds. As with our children's home in Oxford, we Masons have every right to be extremely proud of the care and security that we are providing to our elderly brethren and sisters in their golden years.

The Board of Directors of the Masonic and Eastern Star Home in Greensboro met on May 8, 1999; July 10, 1999; September 10, 1999;

November 13, 1999; and February 12, 2000, all at the Home in Greensboro.

Monthly reports to Lodges

For 30 years, I have heard the Masters of my Lodge go through the recommended order of business contained in the *Bahnson Manual*, and when he calls for reports from the Committee on the Masonic and Eastern Star Home, the Secretary replies, "We don't have any, Worshipful." I am sure that it is much the same in many, if not most, Lodges. I wanted to change that this year.

We ask our members and our Lodges to support our Masonic Charities with their financial contributions, yet—in my opinion—we do not do an adequate job of sharing information with them and telling them about our

Charities. We need to try to provide our members as much information as possible on our Homes.

In the past, the Administrator of the Home has prepared written reports which he presents to the Board of Directors at its quarterly meetings. Without much additional effort, these reports could be prepared on a monthly basis. I asked the Administrator to do this, and to mail copies to the Chairmen of the Committee on the Masonic and Eastern Star Home at each Lodge. A number of very serious and pressing issues arose this year, which prevented the implementation of such a report.

Regular reports on residents sponsored

Some of the residents at our Home write to their sponsoring Lodges and Chapters from time to time. I would like to see this done on a more regular basis. Again, we need to provide as much information as possible to our members and our Lodges who support us.

Regular liaison with Lodge Committees

We have no on-going campus or other publication covering the activities at our Home in Greensboro. I would like to see a campus newspaper created, which could be shared with Lodges, Chapters, and other friends and supporters. We need to provide more information about our Home.

I would like to expand the activities of the Lodge Committees on the Homes. Last year, we initiated a DDGMs workshop, alternating annually between our two Homes. This year, the number of workshops has been increased to two, and they have been expanded to include the DDGLs. This was done to ensure that all of our DDGMs and DDGLs have visited both of our Homes, and are familiar with their operations. I would like to see this program expanded to include workshops for the Chairmen of our Lodge Committees on the Homes. We also need to increase the regular contacts with our Eastern Star Chapters, and provide more information to them.

Support for Lodge fund-raising activities

I would like for us to provide more training for our Lodges and Chapters in their fund-raising activities. Since we ask our Lodges and Chapters to help us with their financial contributions, we need to provide them all the support that we can to help them in their fund-raising efforts.

Conclusion

The Home has made great progress this year. Since his arrival, the Administrator has implemented a number of very positive changes, resulting in cost savings. The deficit in the annual operating budget for the Home has reduced from around \$500,000, to only about \$50,000. After many years of dreaming, the Care and Wellness Center now is a reality, and was dedicated on November 13, 1999.

Both the quantity and the quality of the information and material furnished to the Board have improved exponentially this year, and the Board has been much better able to discharge its duties. We finally have obtained a clear understanding of our real estate holdings, and we have moved to divest ourselves of several that were not considered desirable. We are indeed fortunate that we have very qualified and capable management at the Home. Our employees demonstrate a genuine love and concern for our residents, and provide them with the best care available. I would like to acknowledge and thank each and every one of our employees for their care and dedication.

Recommendations

I recommend that *The Code* be amended, to delete all provisions

pertaining to the Masonic and Eastern Star Home in Greensboro, and that the Grand Lodge discontinue its control and supervision of the Home, and allow the Board of Directors of the Home to select its own members, and to govern itself free from interference by the Grand Lodge. Contrary to what many of our members believe, the Grand Lodge does not *own* the Home, nor any part of it. Continued control of the Home by the fraternity will serve to jeopardize the tax exempt status of the Home, among other deleterious effects.

If Grand Lodge control of the Home is not discontinued, then I recommend the following:

I recommend that Reg. 27-4.1.B of *The Code* be amended, to increase the term of the members of the Board of Directors, to not less than 4 years, nor more than 6.

I recommend that Reg. 27-4.3 of *The Code* be amended, to allow members of the Board of Directors to succeed themselves for one additional term, with subsequent reappointments when 12 months have elapsed since his last term of service expired.

I recommend that Reg. 27-4.4 of *The Code* be amended, to delete the restriction that not more than one member of the Board may have as his place of residence the same city or county.

I recommend that Reg. 27-4.1 of *The Code* be amended, to delete the provision that the Grand Master shall serve *ex officio* as a member and Chairman of the Board of Directors.

I recommend that Reg. 27-4.1 of *The Code* be amended, to delete the provision that the Deputy Grand Master and Senior and Junior Grand Wardens shall serve *ex officio* as members of the Board of Directors; and that, if representation by Grand Lodge Officers is desired, consideration be given to allowing some of the more junior officers to serve, thereby freeing the more senior officers to concentrate on the Grand Lodge and the needs of the fraternity.

I recommend that Reg. 34-17 of *The Code* be deleted, and that the Grand Lodge Committee on the Masonic and Eastern Star Home in Greensboro be eliminated.

I recommend that the efforts which have been begun to give the Directors an increased awareness and knowledge of their legal duties and responsibilities, and to further enhance the governance of the Home, be continued.

I recommend that the Board continue the efforts which it has begun to identify the best possible manner for the investment and management of the funds belonging to the Home.

I recommend that the management of the Home prepare monthly reports on the activities at the Home, and provide copies to the members of the Board of Directors, the Grand Lodge Officers, the Past Grand Masters, and the Chairmen of the subordinate Lodge Committees on the Home.

I recommend that the management of the Home prepare regular reports on the activities, progress and condition of the residents at the Home, and provide copies to the sponsoring Lodges, Chapters and others deemed appropriate.

I recommend that the management of the Home establish a regular and on-going liaison and communication with the subordinate Lodges, through their Committees on the Home, and with the Eastern Star Chapters, on the activities and affairs of the Home.

I recommend that the management of the Home provide greater support to the Lodges and Chapters in their fund-raising and other activities.

I recommend that the job or position title of the *Administrator* be modernized and changed to *Executive Director*.

The North Carolina Masonic Foundation, Incorporated

The North Carolina Masonic Foundation, Incorporated, was organized in 1928. Its Certificate of Incorporation, or Charter, was executed on January 16, 1929, and was filed with the North Carolina Secretary of State the same day. As its purposes, the Charter states that the Foundation is *to be used for the promotion of the educational and charitable objects, plans or purposes of the Grand Lodge, ... or of any specified project of the Grand Lodge....* The Charter also states that the Foundation exists to aid in the education of the youth of the State of North Carolina.

The provisions in *The Code* pertaining to the North Carolina Masonic Foundation are contained in Chapter 35. Reg. 35-2 states that the Foundation *shall manage and control, invest and reinvest all such funds as the Board of Directors in its discretion may deem proper and for the best interest of the Grand Lodge.* Reg. 35-2.3 provides that the Foundation shall report to the Grand Lodge annually, or more often, *setting forth in detail the transactions affecting each of the funds in its charge, giving an itemized inventory of all ... property in its care together with a full and clear accounting....*

For many years, the Foundation was basically inactive, simply existing as a receptacle to accept any gifts that were made to it. About 20 years ago—I understand that it was during the term of the late Grand Master Nelson Banks—an increased interest in, and emphasis on, the Foundation was initiated. As discussed hereinbelow, in 1993 we instituted a formal Development Program, which has been extremely successful.

I have been concerned that our Masonic Foundation is not operating in the manner that normally is expected of such a Foundation, and is not functioning and conducting its business in the manner that normally is expected of such a Foundation. Fortunately, we now have grown to a significant size, yet we have continued to operate in much the same manner as when our endowment was much smaller.

I have been concerned that in the Grand Lodge and in all of our institutions and agencies, we have not been obtaining the professional and other assistance that we require. Again, we have continued to operate in much the same manner as many years ago. With the changes that have occurred, our affairs today are much more complex and complicated, and that no longer is possible. We cannot afford to make mistakes. Our affairs demand that we have the professional and other counsel and advice that is required.

For those reasons, I asked the Foundation Board to elect Brother J. Clark Brewer, an attorney and a leading member of one of North Carolina's most prominent law firms, located in Raleigh, as General Counsel for the Foundation. I am greatly pleased to report that the Board did so.

Early in my term, I requested a copy of the Bylaws of the Foundation Corporation, but I was told that there are none. No one has ever seen any. Yet, North Carolina law requires that every corporation have Bylaws. I asked the Board to adopt Bylaws, and they have agreed to do so. Bro. Brewer is ably assisting in this project.

Several Lodges have begun placing a portion of their funds with the Foundation to manage and invest. I would like to see our Foundation expand its role and the services that it provides to our subordinate Lodges and others in the *Masonic family*.

Ill. Charles E. Scott, of Salem No. 289 in Winston-Salem, has served on the Board of Directors of the Masonic Foundation for many years, recently as President. He has been joined by Brother James R. Goodman, of Renfro No. 691 in Mount Airy, and Brother David B. Wilson, of Jefferson

Penn No. 384 in Reidsville. These brethren all have been extremely successful in their own personal finances, and they graciously have been willing unselfishly to share their time and expertise with our fraternity and its charities. It is impossible to say too much about these men, and their predecessors, for the outstanding service and leadership that they have provided.

This year, I selected Brother James G. Martin, of Phalanx No. 31 in Charlotte, and a former Governor of North Carolina, as my appointment to the Board of Directors of the Masonic Foundation. To my great surprise and delight, Bro. Martin immediately agreed to serve. Later, upon the resignation of M. W. Sam Hennis, I appointed Brother Luther D. Starling, Jr., of Hiram No. 98 in Clinton, to succeed him on the Board. Bro. Starling is an attorney in Smithfield, and serves on the Boards of Campbell University, Sampson County Community College, Sampson Memorial Hospital, and a number of other nonprofit organizations. Both of these brethren bring an absolute wealth of talent and experience to the Foundation, and I am greatly excited that we are poised to take off to even greater heights.

Conclusion

I have been concerned that the members of the Board of Directors of the Masonic Foundation have served mainly to make investment decisions at their monthly meetings. I would like to see the North Carolina Masonic Foundation expand its activities, and function more in the manner that is expected of a Foundation of our size and success. Our endowment portfolio and our professionalism now have grown to a level which will permit us to expand our charitable efforts, including, for example, a statewide program of college scholarships.

I have been concerned that the members of the Foundation Board have made all of the investment decisions, without the benefit of professional advice or assistance. I would like to see the Board obtain the services of one or more professionals in the field of money, fund or asset management and investments.

I have been concerned that there is no mechanism for the review or evaluation of the performance of the funds managed by the Foundation. The members of the Board of Directors of the Foundation have a legal duty to do that. Yet, there is no one to provide that review. The members of the Board basically are providing their own review, and are reviewing themselves.

In developing its new Bylaws, I would like to see the Board provide for a Committee to manage funds and make investment decisions, and a separate Committee with responsibility to review and evaluate the performance of those investment decisions. Most other organizations of the size and complexity of our Foundation provide such safeguards. There should be at least three levels of involvement: the money managers, someone to review and evaluate the money managers, and the Board of Directors. The law requires this degree of supervision and review.

Bro. John S. Miller, Jr., Past Potentate of Oasis Temple, and a long-time member of the Shriners Hospitals Board of Directors, has told me that the endowment fund for the Shriners Hospitals operates on this concept, except that it utilizes four levels. At the bottom level, the Foundation engages and utilizes one or more money managers. At the second level, it also engages and utilizes a professional whose sole responsibility it is to review and evaluate the performance of the money managers, and make recommendations to the Board. At the third level, there also is an investment or other committee responsible for this area. And finally, at the top, with ultimate legal and other responsibility—and liability—there is the Board of Directors.

In my opinion, if we fail to operate and manage our Foundation in a similar fashion, it is a violation of our legal and other responsibilities, and subjects us to legal liability. Furthermore, we have a duty to our contributors to ensure maximum performance and protection of the funds with which we have been entrusted.

I would like to see our Masonic Foundation greatly expand its charitable support beyond our traditional Masonic Charities, and broaden and diversify its charitable efforts throughout North Carolina.

After many years of tremendous growth and success in building our endowment portfolio, we now stand poised to rise to even greater horizons.

Recommendations

I recommend that *The Code* be amended, to delete Chapter 35 and any and all other provisions pertaining to the North Carolina Masonic Foundation, and that the Grand Lodge discontinue its control and supervision of the Foundation, and allow the Board of Directors of the Foundation to select its own members, and to govern itself free from interference by the Grand Lodge. Contrary to what many of our members believe, the Grand Lodge does not *own* the Foundation, nor any part of it. Continued control of the Foundation by the fraternity may serve to jeopardize the tax exempt status of the Home, among other deleterious effects.

I recommend that the Charter of the Masonic Foundation be amended, to restate its purposes and mission, once free of Grand Lodge control.

If Grand Lodge control of the Foundation is not discontinued, then I recommend the following:

I recommend that Reg. 35-1 of *The Code* be amended, to increase the number of members of the Board of Directors of the Masonic Foundation to not less than 21, nor more than 33.

I recommend that Reg. 35-1 be amended, to provide that the Grand Master appoints the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Masonic Foundation.

I recommend that the Grand Lodge continue its traditional support of the North Carolina Masonic Foundation.

I recommend that the North Carolina Masonic Foundation continue to obtain the professional and other counsel and services needed, and to ensure that its operations, management and affairs are conducted in the most professional, proper, efficient and effective manner possible, as is expected and required of a Foundation of our size and complexity.

I recommend that the North Carolina Masonic Foundation continue the efforts that it has begun to obtain the accounting and other capabilities required to document its activities and to provide to the Grand Lodge and others the reports required by *The Code* and otherwise.

I recommend that the Masonic Foundation continue to utilize the professional services of Brother J. Clark Brewer as its attorney and General Counsel.

I recommend that the Masonic Foundation continue the efforts that it has begun to develop and adopt Bylaws, as required by North Carolina law, sufficiently comprehensive as is expected and required of a Foundation of our size and complexity.

I recommend that the Masonic Foundation, in adopting its new Bylaws, provide for an adequate plan for the review and evaluation of those who manage and invest its funds—no matter who they or it may be—with such a plan to consist of at least three levels, including money managers, someone to review and evaluate the performance of the money managers, and the Board of Directors.

I recommend that the Masonic Foundation greatly expand its charitable support beyond our traditional Masonic Charities, and broaden and diversify its charitable efforts on behalf of Freemasonry throughout North Carolina, including, for example, a program of college scholarships.

I recommend that the Masonic Foundation continue the program that it has begun to accept, manage and invest funds belonging to our subordinate Lodges, and others in the *Masonic family*, and to expand its role and the services that it provides to them.

Institutional Development Program

As discussed hereinabove, for most of its existence, our Grand Lodge has not seriously pursued efforts to create a base of financial security. In 1991, M. W. Bill Simpson, then Junior Grand Deacon, was appointed to chair a committee to investigate the creation of a formal development program, and the hiring of a development professional to lead those efforts. The five most junior Grand Lodge Officers served on that committee, and, as I recall, Ill. H. Lloyd Wilkerson, then S. G. I. G. of the Scottish Rite in North Carolina, also was a member. Bro. Wilkerson is retired from the U.S. Marine Corps in the grade of Major General, and has been associated with a number of college and other formal development programs. After much study, consultation and deliberation, the delegates at the 1993 Annual Communication approved a new institutional development program for our Grand Jurisdiction.

In 1993, W. James L. Medlin, of East LaPorte No. 358 in Cullowhee, was hired as our first Director of Development. Bro. Medlin had served for several years as the Development Officer for Western Carolina University, has a Masters Degree in Business Administration, and had other significant training and experience in this field.

Bro. Medlin has worked very diligently, building a program from the ground up where none existed before. He has initiated a number of innovative programs, including the lapel pin program and the calendar program, which have resulted in increased financial support of our Masonic Charities. In five years, he has doubled the annual giving to these charities. Additionally, he has developed and written a training program to assist Lodges with their fund-raising efforts, and he has conducted a series of training workshops in Lodges conveniently located all across the State.

With my strong encouragement, in 1999 Bro. Medlin completed the requirements, and successfully passed the examination, to earn the highest designation in his profession: CFRE—*Certified Fund Raising Executive*. Also in 1999, upon my nomination Bro. Medlin was chosen by the Triangle Chapter of the National Society of Fund Raising Executives (NSFRE) as its Fund Raising Executive of the year, and he was honored at a luncheon attended by over 300 people, many of them the leading philanthropists in North Carolina, including our own Brother Frank Holding, President of First-Citizens Bank.

Because of the unusual relationship among the Grand Lodge and its three Masonic Charities, and in order to avoid duplication and wasteful efforts, and to achieve efficiency and economy, at my request last year Bro. Medlin was designated as the *Director of Development* at the Masonic Home for Children in Oxford, and also at the Masonic and Eastern Star Home in Greensboro. Brother Chris Richardson was hired to assist him at Oxford, with the title of *Assistant Director of Development*. The Home in Greensboro also plans to hire a development professional to assist Bro. Medlin.

Earlier this year, I requested the Board of Directors of the Masonic Foundation to designate Bro. Medlin as the *Executive Director* of the Foundation. However, the Board felt that the title *Executive Secretary* and

Administrative Director was more appropriate, and elected him to that position. The important thing is that we are becoming more professional and more sophisticated in our approach to development and the building of our assets for the support of charity.

Conclusion

Our Development Program has made great progress, and promises to continue to further enhance the philanthropic reputation of our fraternity and to further build and increase our endowment fund

Recommendations

I recommend that the Grand Lodge continue, and perhaps even expand, its support of our Development Program.

Jones Masonic Campus, Inc.

Several years ago, Brother John Jones of Swansboro expressed a desire to donate to our Masonic Charities a tract of land that he owned at Cedar Point in Carteret County. This property is located on the eastern side of the White Oak River, just across the river from the Town of Swansboro. Brother Jones wanted to see the property developed for a summer camp for children.

After much study and deliberation, this dream finally became earlier this year. The Masonic Home for Children and the Masonic and Eastern Star Home agreed to participate in a joint venture for the development and use of this property. A new nonprofit corporation, *Jones Masonic Campus, Inc.*, was chartered, and 60 acres of land—valued at \$20,000 per acre—were donated to it by Bro. Jones and his wife. The agreement requires our two Homes to expend an amount equal to the value of the land to develop it, including grading, construction of roads, paving, installing curbs and gutters, water and sewer systems, etc.

Current plans call for the creation of a satellite campus of our Masonic and Eastern Star Home in Carteret County, and the construction on this tract of independent living apartments. Future plans call for the addition of assisted living facilities. A conference center will be constructed, as will cottages for the children and counselors.

This is a marvelous addition to our Masonic Charities, and is a wonderful example of the dedication of Bro. Jones and his wife to the Masonic principles of Charity and Brotherly Love. We will never forget their generosity, nor their love.

MISCELLANEOUS ACTIVITIES

Drewry Memorial Grand Secretary Fund

Brother John C. Drewry, of Raleigh, was elected Grand Secretary in 1895, and served until 1917. Bro. Drewry was an accomplished and successful businessman. In his Will he left a sum of money as a permanent endowment for the operation of the Office of the Grand Secretary.

Bro. Drewry provided in his Will that the Fund be administered by a five-member Board of Trustees. Bro. Drewry provided in his Will that the Grand Master, Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary serve *ex officio*, with the Grand Master serving as Chairman. Bro. Drewry further provided in his Will that the other two Trustees must be residents of the City of Raleigh.

I appointed Bro. Cameron E. Shearon, of Hiram No. 40 in Raleigh, and Bro. James G. Lassiter, of James B. Green No. 735, also in Raleigh. Bro. Shearon is a Senior Vice President of First-Citizens Bank in Raleigh. Bro. Lassiter is employed at Duke University Medical Center, where his responsibilities include the management of several million dollars. Both of these brethren have a tremendous amount of experience and expertise in finan-

cial and related matters. They are wonderful additions to this Board, and I greatly appreciate their willingness to serve.

Conclusion

For 1999, a total of \$28,000 was received from the Fund, thereby reducing the amount to be funded by the *per capita* dues paid by our members. We are eternally indebted to R. W. Drewry for his commitment to the survival and success of our fraternity, and for his foresight.

The assets comprising this Fund have been placed with the Masonic Foundation to manage and invest.

The value of this Fund, and its performance, are not being properly reported.

Recommendations

I recommend that the assets, value and performance of this Fund be properly reported by the Grand Treasurer or the Grand Secretary to the Grand Master, the Board of General Purposes, and otherwise.

RACIAL HATRED AND BIGOTRY CONDEMNED

Last year (1998-1999) was wrought with controversy over the proposal to recognize Prince Hall Masonry in North Carolina. Some very un-Masonic things were said and done. In response to that, I stated that during my term, we would deal with the Prince Hall issue, and all issues that come before us, in an honest and straightforward manner. I stated that we can disagree, but that we would not be disagreeable. To emphasize that, I selected as one of my themes for my term as Grand Master, *Let's Practice Freemasonry!*

In elaborating on that in my first column in the July/August issue of *The North Carolina Mason*, I explained: *My goal is for each and every one of us to honor the several obligations that we took at the altar, with our hands resting on the Volume of Sacred Law. I want us to learn to control and subdue our passions and prejudices. To me, the great tenets of Freemasonry—such as friendship and brotherly love—are not merely high-sounding, but empty, phrases. I want us to instill these principles in our hearts and consciences, and to display them in our daily lives—in all our actions with our Brother Masons, as well as our brethren comprising the entire human species.* Another, unrelated article in the paper announced that a 31st American Grand Jurisdiction had recognized Prince Hall Masonry.

On August 14, 1999, I received an anonymous email, in which the person—claiming to be a North Carolina Mason—said: *How do you arrive at the notion that they [black people] are "our brethren"? I, sir, have no black "brethren"... We have become a bunch of gutless wonders, but... say that it is "subduing our passions and prejudices."... You're not fooling anyone with platitudes about "friendship and brotherly love"...* That message, along with my accompanying response, was printed in the September/October issue of *The North Carolina Mason*. They also were posted to the Tar Heel Mason network on the internet. Shortly thereafter, I began receiving email messages and other correspondence supporting the anonymous person.

In a subsequent message, the anonymous person stated his belief that blacks and Jews are members of a *subhuman species*. Another person decried *having to baby sit a race of subhumans*. Some people have speculated that Freemasonry has been infiltrated by the Ku Klux Klan, who see us as the last respectable white male bastion. Indeed, one person confirmed that, when he wrote: *I think there are some good blacks but, I draw the line when it comes to setting (sic) in the same Lodge...The Blue Lodge is the last place of refuge for the predominately white Anglo-Saxon male. It is the only place we can go to get away from the racist, affirmative-action, naacp (sic)*

etc. Other members have declared outright that they do not want to sit in Lodge with a black man—only many of them used the “n” word.

The hatred is not limited to black men, but also includes Jews. One person commented that the *race mixing agenda is simply communist propaganda that is as old as the original communists—the Zionists*. That is despicable. Many of the leading and most dedicated members of this fraternity in North Carolina have been Jewish, including at least one Grand Master. Many of the comments and statements that have been made this year go beyond what might be expected of the Ku Klux Klan. They are more akin to the beliefs of the Aryan Nation and other hate and terrorist groups. Sadly, it appears that widespread—and vocal—racial hatred and bigotry has infested and infected North Carolina Freemasonry. These men, and their racial hatred, are a cancer in the body of our fraternity, which, if not removed and cured, will destroy it.

Technically, the issue of recognition of Prince Hall Masonry and racial prejudice are two separate and distinct issues. However, since it primarily is black men who constitute Prince Hall Masonry, the two issues do have some overlap. In the minds of many of our members, they seem to be one and the same. The discussion generated by the Prince Hall issue has revealed a dark underbelly of our fraternity. It is bad enough if any of our members harbor such thoughts in their hearts and minds. However, it is much worse when they openly espouse such opinions, and worse still when they base much of their conduct on such beliefs.

When I began my term, I stated that the issue of Prince Hall recognition was not on my agenda. I stated that I could understand that Masons could disagree on the issue of recognition of Prince Hall Masonry, but that I could not understand how a Freemason—or anyone claiming to be a Freemason—could make such statements. To my recollection, I never mentioned Prince Hall Masonry this year except to respond to a member's question or comment. There were other important issues that I felt we needed to address. I felt that perhaps we needed a cooling off period on the Prince Hall question. However, the men who preach racial hatred forced me to add it to my agenda. I could not stand idly by while the hate-mongers spew their venom and spread their poison. Such conduct is the complete antithesis of Freemasonry. Reg. 12-8 of *The Code* requires that each Grand Lodge Officer take the following oath: *I promise upon the honor of a Master Mason that I will, to the best of my ability, conform to and abide by the Ancient Landmarks, Usages, and Regulations of Masonry, and the Constitution and laws of this Grand Lodge...* I had to defend Freemasonry.

Freemasons are taught that the *Holy Bible* is our Volume of Sacred Law, and that it is our trestleboard upon which we can find the necessary designs for a virtuous and prosperous life. In the book of Genesis, we are told that all mankind is our brother. The prophet Malachi wisely noted, *Have we not all one father? Hath not one God created us?* Matthew tells us that when Jesus was asked during his earthly ministry which is the great commandment in the law, he responded: *Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.* Jesus classified that as the first and great commandment. However, he quickly added a second: *And the second is like unto it. Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.* We all remember the parable of the Good Samaritan. Jesus constantly taught that all people are our brothers and sisters.

Throughout our ritual, Freemasonry adopts and emphasizes the lessons taught by, and the beautiful principles to be found in, the *Holy Bible*. Can we simply go through the motions, saying that we believe it, when in truth and in fact we believe just the opposite?

But it is not just the lessons and principles which Freemasonry adopts from the *Holy Bible*. Throughout our ritual are found innumerable refer-

ences and statements to the effect that we are all children of one God. Indeed, we proudly proclaim that Freemasonry is *The Brotherhood of Man Under the Fatherhood of God*. I adopted that as one of my themes, and included it on my official letterhead as Grand Master. That is what I have been taught about our fraternity, and that is what I have believed. I still believe it.

The primary lesson of the First, or Entered Apprentice, Degree is that of brotherly love.

In the prayer at the beginning of the First Degree, God is implored to *grant that this candidate for Masonry may dedicate and devote his life to the service of God. God is asked to endue the candidate with a competency of thy divine wisdom, that by the secrets of our art he may be better enabled to display the beauties of holiness, to the honor of thy holy name.*

When each of us was first brought to light in Masonry, the first thing that we saw was the *Holy Bible*, square and compasses. We were told that the *Holy Bible* is given to us as the rule and guide of faith; the square to square our actions; and the compasses to circumscribe us and keep us within due bounds *with all mankind*.

When the Masonic Apron is presented, the candidate is admonished to let its *pure and spotless surface be to you an ever-present reminder of a "purity of life and rectitude of conduct," a never-ending argument for nobler deeds, for higher thoughts, for greater achievements.*

We are told that Freemasonry is a *beautiful system of morality*. We also are told that *its principles are based on pure morality, its ethics are the ethics of pure religion; its doctrines, the doctrines of brotherly love; and its sentiments, the sentiments of exalted benevolence. It encourages all that is good, kind, and charitable; and reproves all that is vicious, cruel, and oppressive.*

We are taught that *it is the internal and not the external qualifications which recommend a man to Masons.*

Later, after we were returned to the Lodge room, it was explained to each of us that the covering of a Lodge is a clouded canopy or starry decked heaven, where all good Masons hope at last to arrive, by aid of the theological ladder which Jacob in his vision saw extending from earth to heaven, the three principal rounds of which are denominated *Faith, Hope and Charity*. In many biblical editions, the word *charity* is translated as *love*.

Later, we are taught that the immovable jewels of a Lodge are the Square, Plumb and Level. The Square inculcates morality, the Level equality, and the Plumb rectitude of life.

Still later, we each were taught that the tenets of a Mason's profession are *Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth*. It was explained to us that *by the exercise of brotherly love we are taught to regard the whole human species—the high and the low, the rich and the poor, as one family; who, as created by one almighty parent, and inhabitants of the same planet, are to aid, support and protect each other.* These are some of the oldest words contained in our ritual, and convey some of the most beautiful and inspiring sentiments.

In the Second, or Fellow Craft, Degree, each of us was taught that the square of virtue should be a *rule and guide to our conduct, in all of our future transactions with mankind*. We also were taught that the working tools of a Fellow Craft are the Plumb, the Square and the Level. Masonically, the Plumb admonishes us to walk uprightly in our several stations before God and man; the Square that we are to square our actions by the square of virtue; and the Level that we all are equal on the level of time.

Later, in the Charge, we are reminded again that it is the *internal, and*

not the external qualifications of a man which Freemasonry regards.

In the Third, or Master Mason's Degree, we are taught that the jewels of a Master Mason are *Friendship, Morality, and Brotherly Love.*

The two classes of emblems or symbols of the Third Degree are explained to us. The first class is monitorial, and includes the bee-hive. We are told that the bee-hive teaches us that we should never sit down contented *while our fellow-creatures around us are in want, when it is in our power to relieve them without injury to ourselves.*

The Three Steps are explained to us as being emblematic of the three stages of human life: Youth, Manhood, and Age. We are reminded that in Manhood, as Fellow Crafts, *we should apply our knowledge to the discharge of our respective duties to God, our neighbor, and ourselves.*

In the Charge on the Master Mason's Degree, we are admonished that we are always to inculcate universal benevolence.

And, in the Charge after closing the Lodge, we are told that the generous principles that we have been taught *are to extend further. Every human being has a claim upon your kind offices. Do good unto all.*

Thus, it readily can be seen that the principles of equality and brotherly love permeate every aspect of Freemasonry!

Do we truly believe these statements? Or are they merely high-sounding, but empty, phrases? Do we believe Freemasonry means what it says? Are we Masons? Or are we only members?

I am shocked and dismayed by the number of men who profess to be Freemasons, yet who know virtually nothing of the true lessons and teachings of the Order. The beliefs espoused by the anonymous writer and his defenders and kinsmen are completely contrary to all of the teachings of Freemasonry! They are the complete antithesis of Freemasonry!

A Freemason who harbors such beliefs is both a liar and a hypocrite. He is not a true Freemason. He definitely is no Mason. At most he is only a member. And he is a member that we neither need nor want. Such men do our beloved fraternity grave harm.

It is not only our ritual which is permeated by the concepts of equality and brotherly love. Our Masonic law, also, is replete with them. There are so many examples and illustrations that I cannot list them all. Time and space will allow me to mention only a few here.

In the Preamble of the Constitution of our Grand Lodge, which appears on page 1 of *The Code*, there appears a Declaration Concerning God and Religion. There it is stated that the *Grand Lodge acknowledges belief in God to be the great fundamental principle and landmark of Freemasonry upon which our Fraternity is founded.* It also is stated that a *Mason is obliged, by his tenure, to obey the moral law...*

Beginning on page 1 and going over to page 2, there appears a Declaration of Principles. On page 2, in paragraph 2, it is stated that *Freemasonry is a charitable society in that... all is devoted to the promotion of the welfare and happiness of mankind.*

In paragraph 5, it is declared that *Freemasonry is religious in that... reverence for God is ever present in its ceremonial, and to its brethren are constantly addressed lessons of morality...*

In paragraph 7, it is stated that *through improvement and strengthening of the character of the individual man, Freemasonry seeks to improve the community. Thus it impresses upon its members the principles of personal righteousness and personal responsibility, enlightens them as to those things which make for human welfare, and inspires them with that feeling of charity, or good will, toward all mankind which will move them to translate principle and conviction into action.*

In paragraph 8, it is declared that *Freemasonry teaches and stands for the worship of God; for truth and justice; for fraternity and philanthropy; and for enlightenment and orderly liberty, civil, religious, and intellectual.*

In paragraph 9, it is stated that *Freemasonry believes that the attainment of these objectives is best accomplished by laying a broad basis of principle upon which men of various opinions may unite.*

Reg. 52-3 of *The Code* prescribes the *Duties of a Freemason*, which include the following:

To obey the moral law;

To be a good man and true;

To live in peace and to practice charity;

To obey the civil law;

To observe those lessons and duties inculcated in the several lectures and charges of the three Symbolic degrees of Freemasonry; and,

To keep and perform the several obligations of those degrees.

Reg. 52-4 of *The Code* states that belief in the existence of God is a *fundamental tenet in Freemasonry.*

Reg. 59-1 of *The Code* states that it is the duty of each officer of a subordinate Lodge to demonstrate a *diligent desire to exemplify before the world the virtues and sublime morality of Freemasonry.*

Reg. 71-4 of *The Code* requires that each candidate for initiation shall satisfactorily answer the following prescribed question: *Do you seriously declare upon your honor that you will cheerfully conform to all the ancient established usages and customs of the Fraternity?*

Reg. 86-1 of *The Code* states that it is a Masonic offense for any member to *bring reproach upon Masonry by his conduct.*

That same regulation declares that a *Masonic offense is the violation of the moral law, or the civil law, or of Masonic obligations, or a violation of the laws, usages, and customs of Masonry...*

Reg. 86-1.1 states that *Masons are bound to obey the moral law and to observe the lessons and duties inculcated in the several degrees.*

Reg. 86-1.5 declares that a *Mason's conduct in general and at all times should be such as not to bring discredit upon the Order or to degrade it in the estimation of good people.*

Reg. 86-2.1 declares that it is a specific Masonic offense to *fail to discharge the duties of a Mason.*

Reg. 86-2.11 declares that it is a specific Masonic offense to *violate a Masonic obligation or an oath lawfully taken.*

Reg. 86-2.28 declares that it is a specific Masonic offense to *"violate the moral law..."*

Reg. 87-20 defines un-Masonic conduct as *any conduct, behavior, or action that is a violation of the moral law, or the civil law, or of Masonic obligations, or a violation of the laws, usages, and customs of Masonry, or in the light of surrounding circumstances, brings reproach on a Mason or Masonry.*

Reg. 90-10 declares that Masonic offenses include acts or omissions *tending to impair the purity of the Masonic institution, or to cause scandal, or to degrade it in the estimation of the public, or those which are in any way contrary to its principles, teachings, and obligations.*

One can see that there are many references to the *moral law.*

Webster's Dictionary defines *moral* as:

Of or relating to principles of right and wrong in behavior;

Expressing or teaching a conception of right behavior;

Conforming to a standard of right behavior;
 Capable of right and wrong;
Conforming to a standard of what is right and good; and,
Conformity to established sanctioned codes or accepted notions of right and wrong.

Black's Law Dictionary defines *moral law* as:

The law of conscience; and,

The aggregate of those rules and principles of ethics which relate to right and wrong conduct and prescribe the standards to which the actions of men should conform in their dealings with each other.

I do not know any right-thinking person who would say that it is right, or good or *moral* to discriminate against another person simply because of the color of his skin, or to hold feelings or beliefs of bigotry and racial prejudice and hatred.

And I can guarantee you that such conduct very definitely is a violation of the civil law.

Such beliefs and conduct very definitely *bring reproach upon Masonry.*

Such beliefs and conduct very definitely *bring discredit upon the Order and degrade it in the estimation of good people.*

Such beliefs and conduct very definitely *impair the purity of the Masonic institution.*

Such beliefs and conduct violate the *laws, usages, and customs of Masonry.*

Such beliefs and conduct are *contrary to the principles, teachings and obligations of Masonry.*

There are a number of issues which are at interplay here. In order to understand them, I think that every Freemason in North Carolina needs to understand how the issue of recognition of Prince Hall came about.

For a number of years, the Grand Lodge Officers have realized that we—meaning our fraternity—are sitting on a *powder keg*, and that it could blow up in our faces at any moment. That *powder keg* is the matter of race, or more correctly, racial prejudice and racial discrimination. The recognition of Prince Hall is a related part of that. Each one of us (Grand Lodge Officers) has feared that this matter might *blow up* during our year as Grand Master.

Because we knew that it would be controversial and unpleasant, none of us wanted that to happen. In retrospect, I now realize that such an attitude indicated a lack of moral courage and leadership. Good leaders must lead their organizations through times of turmoil and trouble, as well as through the much more easy and pleasant good times. It does not take much of a leader to lead when the waters are calm.

The first thing that I—or to my knowledge, any of the Grand Lodge Officers—knew about any proposal to recognize Prince Hall Masonry in North Carolina was during a meeting of the Board of General Purposes in Morehead City in September of 1997. The Grand Secretary, Bro. Clapp, walked into the room and placed on the table a resolution from Hominy Lodge No. 491 in Candler, near Asheville, calling for recognition of Prince Hall.

Since *The Code* prescribes the procedure that we use to recognize other Grand Lodges, Hominy Lodge was advised of that fact, and their original resolution was re-written to conform to the requirements of *The Code*. The resulting proposal to amend Sec. 2-2 of *The Code* was introduced at the Annual Communication in 1998, with Hiram Lodge No. 40 in Raleigh, and Doric Lodge No. 568 in New Bern, as co-sponsors.

A number of allegations were made last year (1998-1999) that neither

Hiram nor Doric Lodges had actually voted to co-sponsor the proposed amendment. However, to my knowledge, neither Lodge ever took any action to cancel or rescind their co-sponsorship last year, so it appears that those allegations were not correct.

In January 1999, when I began preparing to be a presenter at the Winter Masonic Education Seminars, I telephoned the Secretary of Hominy Lodge, to inquire just how the resolution had come about. As it turned out, the Secretary—Bro. David Clontz—is a Deputy with the Buncombe County Sheriff's Department, and he and I had stood in line together at the 1998 Annual Communication.

Bro. Clontz told me that sometime in the Winter of 1997, perhaps February or March, one brother conducted a Masonic Education program in their Lodge one night on the topic of Prince Hall Masonry. At the end of the program, Bro. Clontz told me, the members of the Lodge simply felt that recognition of Prince Hall Masonry in North Carolina was the right thing to do, and voted to pass the resolution.

As everyone knows, the issue was very controversial and divisive last year, and the proposal was defeated by the delegates at the Annual Communication in Charlotte in April 1999. However, the same proposal was introduced again, this time, again, by Hominy Lodge, but with Snow Lodge No. 363 in Boone as a co-sponsor. It will be voted on at this Annual Communication this afternoon. Some have said that they would like to see this issue go away and disappear. However, there are others who have said that they hope the issue will be introduced again, year after year, until it finally passes.

That—in a nutshell, as they say—is how the issue of the recognition of Prince Hall Masonry in North Carolina came about. As I stated above, to my knowledge, none of the Grand Lodge Officers have been involved in it, nor have any of them had any role in it, before it was introduced.

After the issue was presented, and after it was reviewed, studied and discussed, both last year, and continuing on into this year, a number of people—me included—came to the conclusion that the recognition of Prince Hall Masonry in North Carolina is the correct thing to do. I can and will only speak for myself. However, for me, there are a number of reasons.

First, I believe that it is the right thing to do. I believe that we should recognize Prince Hall Masonry in North Carolina because it is the right thing to do.

As I stated earlier, this issue has been very controversial and divisive. I have been shocked by the unreasonableness of some of those who oppose it. I also have been shocked—and sadly disappointed—at the degree of racial prejudice and bigotry and hatred that this issue has revealed exists among some of the members of our fraternity.

Ours is an international fraternity. We have members in many, if not most, countries all around the world. We have members of virtually every color and complexion—red, brown, yellow, and—yes—even black.

I stated earlier that I have come to favor the recognition of Prince Hall because it is the right thing to do. I also favor recognition because I feel that it is the wise and prudent thing to do. It is what is in the best interests of the fraternity.

Many of our members are living in the past—or want to do so. However, the times have changed. Our laws have changed. Society has changed. Freemasonry no longer operates in the same environment in which it once operated. We no longer can continue to do many of the same things that we have done.

Because of the changes in the laws, we have amended *The Code*,

removing all prohibitions against black men joining our fraternity. However, the intolerant racial attitudes of many of our members, and the racial policies of our fraternity, have not kept pace with the changes that have taken place in the society from which our members come.

Freemasonry in North Carolina is guilty of practicing racial discrimination. Not only is that morally corrupt and wrong, it also is a violation of the civil and criminal law.

We do not obtain or maintain data on the racial make-up of our membership. However, I am not aware that we have any black members in any of our Lodges in North Carolina. We have many, many fine men in our fraternity. Men who would welcome a good man into our membership based on the content of his character and his internal qualifications, and not on the color of his skin—exactly what we say that we do and what we are supposed to do. However, it seems that there are at least one or two in every Lodge who will cast the black cube to prevent a black man from joining.

Not only is that hypocritical and totally un-Masonic, but it is very unlawful.

Violation of the law can result in serious consequences for us.

There is the issue of our liability for both criminal and civil fines and penalties.

There is the issue of our liability for civil damages.

And there is the issue of our tax exempt status. I feel that this is the area in which we have the most to fear—and to lose.

Because we are a non-profit organization, our fraternity has been granted tax exempt status pursuant to Reg. 501(c)(10) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code. The Grand Lodge is considered to be the *parent* entity, and each one of our subordinate Lodges is included under its umbrella and has its own separate and distinct identification number. The Grand Lodge is required to file both federal (Form 990) and state (Form CD-405) income tax returns each year. Those Lodges that have income in excess of \$25,000 also are required to file their own separate Federal and State income tax returns.

Because they are charities, and because of the good works that they do, our two Homes and our Masonic Foundation also have been granted tax exempt status, pursuant to Reg. 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code.

By virtue of such tax exempt status, we do not have to pay income tax on the dues paid by our members, nor on the charitable contributions made to our three charities.

Based on the federal tax exemption, the State of North Carolina similarly has granted us tax exempt status. As a result, we do not have to pay income taxes to the state, nor do we have to charge or pay sales taxes on the food and other items that we sell as a part of our fund-raising activities.

Last—and perhaps most important—because of our non-profit and tax-exempt status, we do not have to pay *ad valorem* real property taxes on the land and buildings that we own. That includes not only our two Homes, but also the Grand Lodge, and also includes all of our subordinate Lodges.

Many of our Lodge buildings are very nice. And very valuable. Some of our members are complaining about the dues that they have to pay now. Imagine how they would react to the dues that would be necessary if we had to pay income taxes, sales taxes and *ad valorem* real property taxes? Many of our members could not afford them. Many of our Lodges would have to close their doors.

Yet, that is exactly what can and will happen if our racial discrimina-

tion policies become widely known among the public—if we get caught.

I have been concerned about this eventuality for several years. Last October, when I attended the Biennial Session of the Scottish Rite Supreme Council in Washington, DC, I saw the Sovereign Grand Commander present the Grand Cross to a Mason from Maryland. The recipient, Bro. Robert Lyons, is a CPA in Bethesda, and is an expert in the areas of non-profit organizations and tax exempt status. He has written books and articles on the subject, and also has taught it. Further, he has rendered great assistance to the Supreme Council and other Masonic organizations all across the country on the issue of taxes. As has been discussed hereinabove, Bro. Lyons has travelled to North Carolina twice to meet with some of our Masonic leadership.

Bro. Lyons told us that the face of the IRS has changed. Whereas, a generation ago, nearly all field agents were white males, now females make up more than half of the field agents, and blacks make up nearly half. (It is obvious that there are a lot of black females.) He cautioned that a single IRS field agent can cause serious problems for us.

One agent can visit a Lodge, audit its books and examine its records. The agent probably will ask how many black members the Lodge has, and the Lodge will respond that it has none—quickly emphasizing, however, that our laws do not prevent a black man from joining. If the agent knows about our Open House Program, she may ask how many black men have been invited to the Lodge. When the Lodge replies that none have been invited, the agent will conclude that the Lodge has been practicing *de facto* (in fact), as opposed to *de jure* (by law), racial discrimination.

The agent then will initiate an audit of other Lodges around the State. When she finds the same things in all of them, she will have three choices:

1. She can impose a civil fine against the individual subordinate Lodges and the Grand Lodge;
2. She can revoke our tax exempt status; or,
3. She can allow us to retain our tax exempt status, but on certain conditions. One of those would require that we integrate our Lodges. For example, she could require that we attain 20% black membership within 18 months, or 33% black membership within 24 months, or something similar.

I asked Bro. Lyons how much time it would buy us—before we are forced to integrate the fraternity—if we recognize Prince Hall Masonry in North Carolina. In January 2000, he estimated that it would buy us approximately 5-8 years, but in February he said that five years probably would be more accurate.

I am aware that our malcontents will blame *them*. Such people always want to blame someone or something else. Such people want to blame *the law*. Such people want to blame *the government*. Such people never want to have to admit who the real culprit is. They never want to blame their own hard heart. The cartoon character Pogo said that *we have met the enemy, and he is US!* That applies to our fraternity. We have met the enemy, and it is US! We have absolutely no one other than ourselves to blame for our own failures and shortcomings. We can blame no one but ourselves for the fact that we have many men in our fraternity who reject and oppose its basic teachings. We can blame no one but ourselves for the fact that we have allowed our beloved fraternity to fail miserably in achieving its goal of *The Brotherhood of Man Under the Fatherhood of God*.

I have heard several of our members state that they do not want to sit in Lodge with a black man. Recognition of Prince Hall is one of the best steps that they could take to avoid that.

There has been absolutely no mention by either Grand Lodge of any

merger between our Grand Lodge and the Prince Hall Grand Lodge. With recognition, both would continue to exist, possessing and exercising supreme power and authority over their own Lodges and in their own respective spheres.

I have said that the Prince Hall Masons are some of the best friends that we, the A.F. and A.M. Masons, have.

If they wanted to do so, they could create an absolute nightmare for us, either legally or in the court of public opinion.

They could sue us for racial discrimination. We do not need to be involved in any lawsuits in any courts of law.

They also could expose our racial discrimination and hypocrisy in the court of public opinion.

We lament that more good men are not beating down our doors to join us. Can you imagine what would happen if all the world knew that we are allowing some of our members to practice racial discrimination?

Not only would good men no longer come to join us, but many of our current members would feel forced to leave.

We like to say that in the *good old days*, nearly all of the public officials were Masons. We lament that such no longer is the case.

We do have a few public officials who are Masons. Can you imagine what would happen if all the world knew what we are doing?

Not only would we not get any more public officials to join us, but many of those who currently are members would be forced to leave.

All of the lawyers, and Judges and District Attorneys would have to leave a fraternity shown to be guilty of practicing racial discrimination.

That includes Ill. David Sentelle, 33°, G. L. C. C., Chief Judge of the U. S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, often referred to as our 'second Supreme Court' because of the significance of the cases which it hears. Bro. Sentelle is the one who was grilled so hard by the U. S. Senate Judiciary Committee when he was nominated for his present position. There were many who tried to force him to abandon Freemasonry then.

One of our brethren is serving as Chief Judge of the U. S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, often referred to as our second Supreme Court because of the significance of the cases which it hears.

Another of our brethren is a former state representative, Superior Court Judge and Attorney General, who now is serving as a Judge of the U. S. District Court for the Western District of North Carolina.

One of our brethren is a Justice on the North Carolina Supreme Court.

Another of our brethren is a Judge on the North Carolina Court of Appeals.

There are others.

Past Grand Master Lester P. Martin, Jr., is an Emergency Superior Court Judge.

Past Grand Master and current Grand Treasurer Clifton W. Everett, Jr., is a Superior Court Judge.

Current Senior Grand Deacon Jerry R. Tillett, of Manteo, is a Superior Court Judge.

And all of the other Superior and District Court Judges that we have in North Carolina. I do not know all of them, but I know that we have a great number of Judges in our fraternity here in North Carolina.

It also would include all of our legislators.

One of our brethren is a U. S. Senator.

Several of our brethren are U. S. Representatives.

One of our brethren is President Pro Tempore of the North Carolina Senate, one of the most powerful positions in state government.

Another of our brethren is Speaker of the North Carolina House of Representatives, another of the most powerful positions in state government.

And all of the other state Senators and Representatives of whom we are so proud.

The list goes on and on:

At least one of our brethren is a former Governor of North Carolina.

One of our brethren is retiring this year as the long-time Commissioner of Agriculture in North Carolina.

Another of our brethren is President of the North Carolina Community College System.

All of the County Commissioners, County officials, Board of Education members, school Superintendents, Principals and teachers, Mayors and Town Board members.

All of the Sheriffs and Police Chiefs.

All of the Deputy Sheriffs and Police Officers.

All of the members of the State Highway Patrol, including the Executive Officer. (I have been told that 55% of the Highway Patrol are Freemasons.)

In short, all of the elected and appointed public officials who now are Freemasons would be forced to leave.

Not a one of these will be able to be a member of our fraternity. It will not be allowed by law.

No one who is charged with or responsible for making, upholding or enforcing the laws can be a member of an organization that practices racial discrimination unlawfully.

And not just the public officials.

The business men also will be affected.

Many of our members fail to realize it, but we have brethren who occupy some of the most significant and influential positions in banking, manufacturing, business and industry.

But no one who is in a position of authority, or who is respectable, will be able to continue to be a member of a fraternity that has been shown to be guilty of practicing racial discrimination.

I know that I certainly would be forced to leave. I can not, and will not, be a member of any organization that is guilty of practicing racial discrimination—at least not if it refuses and opposes all efforts to try to correct the situation.

I know that several of the Past Grand Masters will leave the fraternity.

And I know of many, many other men who also will have to leave.

All of the truly good men will leave.

And all that will be left will be those who espouse and practice racial prejudice, bigotry, hatred and discrimination—primarily, as one might expect, low-class, common white trash.

I should correct my statement. I said that all of the good men will be forced to leave the fraternity. That is not accurate. The fraternity will have been taken over and corrupted by men who represent the very antithesis or opposite of Freemasonry, and all of the beautiful principles and tenets for which it stands, and the beautiful lessons which it teaches, and **THE FRATERNITY WILL HAVE LEFT US! Or, rather, THE FRATERNITY WILL HAVE BEEN STOLEN FROM US!**

To me, it is not at all inconceivable that the Grand Lodge of England and other Grand Lodges, both abroad and here at home in the United States, will withdraw their recognition of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina. And rightfully so. They should withdraw their recognition of us if we so blatantly reject the true principles and tenets of Freemasonry. We no longer would be Freemasonry. And, we no longer would merit or deserve the recognition that goes with that exalted status.

There are those who say that they oppose recognition of Prince Hall, and who make great protestations that their opposition is not based on matters of race. I no longer can believe that.

Those who oppose recognition of Prince Hall Masonry in North Carolina have thrown up every conceivable objection to it—and some that are inconceivable—including the following:

They, meaning Prince Hall Masonry, do not practice the same Freemasonry that we practice. We do not know what obligations they take. Such statements reveal the ignorance of those who make them. As I stated earlier, Freemasonry is an international fraternity, and one which has been evolving over hundreds of years. There is no one Freemasonry that is practiced everywhere in the world. There are differences. That has never bothered anyone before—not when we were recognizing WHITE Grand Lodges.

Some of our members have claimed that they—meaning Prince Hall Masonry—do not practice the same ritual that we use. Again, such statements show the ignorance of the speaker. The Masonic ritual as it currently is practiced here in the United States is based on the early work of Thomas Preston in England, and Thomas Smith Webb, an American. There is no one ritual that is exactly the same, and which is practiced all around the world. Anyone who has observed degrees performed in other states readily recognizes that. There are differences. Again, that has never bothered anyone before—at least not when we were recognizing WHITE Grand Lodges.

Some of our members have claimed that they—meaning Prince Hall Masonry—do not require a man to be 21 years old to join.

Some of our members have claimed that they—meaning Prince Hall Masonry—do not require their members to memorize catechisms on the degrees.

Some of our members have claimed that they—meaning Prince Hall Masonry—allow their members to obtain all three degrees in the same day.

First of all, based on what I have been told, none of that is true.

But even if it is, so what? Many of the Grand Jurisdictions in other states here in the United States—which we recognize—pursue those same practices.

Several states allow men to join at age 18.

Several states do not require catechisms.

Several states offer all three degrees in a single day.

Yet no one has complained before. Not when we are talking about WHITE Grand Lodges.

Some of our members claim that their opposition to recognition of Prince Hall Masonry is because the original Prince Hall and the other black men who formed African Lodge were improperly initiated by a British military Lodge that did not have authority to do so.

Some of our members claim that it is because the original African Lodge chartered other subordinate Lodges.

Some say that it is because these black Lodges organized the original Prince Hall Grand Lodge.

Some say that the Grand Lodge of England severed its ties to the group because of all of this.

Based on the reading that I have done, none of these is a valid objection, and some of them are not even based on fact.

Of course, many, if not most, of the opponents of recognition of Prince Hall do not bother with or care about the facts or the truth.

But, again, so what if it is true?

Several of the early Lodges in America were organized by groups of Masons. These Lodges were not originally created or chartered by a Grand Lodge. They were formed merely by a group of Masons deciding to do so. The Lodge of Brother George Washington, in Fredericksburg, Virginia, is a prime example. There are others.

Even some of the original Grand Lodges were not formed in the manner and method which we follow and use today.

The point is that—in that day and time—things were not so perfect as we insist they be today.

Yet, we have never protested before. Not when we are dealing with WHITE Grand Lodges.

It is important to bear in mind, however, that many of the WHITE Grand Lodges are ethnically diverse, as in England, Scotland, and Ireland.

Oh, yes. Some of those who are opposed to recognition of Prince Hall say that there can be only one Grand Lodge in any given geographic territory. In other words, there can be only one Grand Lodge in the state of North Carolina.

And once again, that is not true.

The doctrine of exclusive territorial jurisdiction is unknown in most of the world.

Many, if not most, of the Grand Lodges around the world have always chartered subordinate Lodges in areas where other Grand Lodges also were chartering Lodges.

In the country of South Africa, I think it is, there are Lodges there that are chartered by four different Grand Lodges: England, Scotland, Ireland, and, I believe, the Netherlands.

Those who have studied Masonic history know that the original Grand Lodge of England was organized by four London Lodges in 1717. Becoming increasingly troubled by what they viewed as improper changes in Masonry, one group organized a rival Grand Lodge in 1753. Interestingly, the new Grand Lodge styled itself as the Antients, and the original group as the Moderns.

During much of the colonial period in America, then, the two competing Grand Lodges both chartered new Lodges here. In 1755, St. John's Lodge No. 1 in Wilmington was chartered by one of the English Grand Lodges, but my information does not indicate which one. Union Lodge, now Phoenix No. 8, in Fayetteville, was chartered by the Grand Lodge of Scotland in 1760.

Freemasons in other parts of the world are not bothered by this. They consider that each Grand Lodge has exclusive jurisdiction only over those Lodges which fall under its Constitution. There is no pretense to any territorial, or geographic, claim of jurisdiction.

That concept is strictly an American creation.

And, even here in America, we have not always honored exclusive geographic territorial jurisdiction.

First Lodge in Pitt County was chartered by the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts in 1764.

Blandford-Bute Lodge, in what is now Warren County, was chartered by the Grand Lodge of Virginia in 1766.

In 1815, the Grand Lodge of North Carolina—our own Grand Lodge—

chartered a new Lodge in Mississippi Territory.

And in 1818 and again in 1820, we chartered Lodges in Alabama.

These are just a few examples. No doubt, a serious student of Masonic history could share even more.

The point is that none of this has ever mattered before—not when we were dealing with WHITE Grand Lodges.

The Grand Lodges in many foreign countries also have recognized Prince Hall Masonry as being regular.

The United Grand Lodge of England has done so.

This is the Grand Lodge whose jurisdiction supposedly was violated, and which supposedly was aggrieved, by the organization of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge. If they now have determined and ruled that Prince Hall Masonry is regular, then who are we to complain? We were not a party to that original matter, so it is none of our business. The bottom line is that Prince Hall now has been recognized as regular.

The majority of Grand Lodges in the United States—31 by last count, I think—now have recognized Prince Hall Masonry in their Grand Jurisdictions as being regular.

These include the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts and the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

These are two of the Grand Lodges whose jurisdiction supposedly was violated, and who were aggrieved, by the organization of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge. Again, if they have determined and ruled that Prince Hall Masonry is regular, then who are we to complain? We were not a party to that original matter, so it is none of our business. Again, the bottom line is that Prince Hall now has been recognized as regular.

The opponents of recognition, having run out of legitimate things to say, now have been forced to resort to objections that are so ludicrous that they are downright laughable.

Some of our members claim that they—meaning Prince Hall Masonry—allow convicted felons to be members. That is not true. Here in North Carolina, the standards of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge are MORE STRICT than our own. They do not allow a convicted felon to petition to join the fraternity, whereas we do.

From everything that I have heard, Prince Hall Masonry has more demanding standards than we do.

Is it any coincidence that most of the remaining states that have not recognized Prince Hall are the former slave-holding states? I do not think so.

The Grand Lodges of New York and New Jersey have not recognized Prince Hall. However, with both of them, the matter is an economic one. The Grand Lodge of New York has approximately 1,000 members who are black men. In New Jersey, Alpha Lodge is entirely black. Both of these Grand Lodges are afraid that if they recognize Prince Hall, they will lose these black members to it. It has absolutely nothing to do with race. Only money.

However, in the South—the old Confederacy—it IS about race—pure and simple. And that is WRONG, WRONG, WRONG! It is completely contrary to the very heart and essence of Freemasonry.

Some of the men who are leading the opposition to recognition of Prince Hall are supposed to be leaders in our fraternity. But they are NOT leaders. Not real leaders. A true leader does what is right for his organization, and what is in its best interests. Many of these men are demagogues. Many of these men are seeking to inflame the passions of some of our members on this issue merely for the purpose of advancing their own personal, misguided agenda, which—if achieved—will destroy Freemasonry.

In truth, the matter of recognition of Prince Hall Masonry in North Carolina is but a relatively minor matter. What we actually are engaged in is a battle for the very heart and soul and continued existence of our beloved fraternity.

I want Freemasonry to survive, and thrive.

I want Freemasonry to be what it is supposed to be.

I want us to take all of the beautiful words, and principles, and tenets, and lessons into our hearts, and our minds, and our consciences, and to strive to display and demonstrate them in our daily lives and in all of our dealings with our fellow human beings.

The real miscreants are those who—after kneeling at her altar, and professing to adopt her creed—are seeking to destroy Freemasonry. Many men have said that Freemasonry can not be destroyed from outside sources—only from within. I believe that with all of my heart and mind.

It is those who are wolves in sheep's clothing. A racially prejudiced man and a bigot is bad enough, but a liar and a hypocrite is even worse.

During the American Revolution, the English writer Thomas Paine, in his immortal poem, *The Summer Soldier* and the *Sunshine Patriot*, noted that now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of their country.

I feel that the sentiment behind those words is still valid today, and applies with full and equal force to those of us who are engaged in the present debate:

Now is the time for all good Freemasons to come to the aid of their fraternity!

I hope that I can count each of you among that group.

The group that is willing to change in order to preserve Freemasonry—pure and unsullied—for future generations!

THE NEED FOR CHANGE

Change Presents Opportunities to Excel

Brethren, throughout my term I have continually addressed the need for change in our fraternity. I have told you that I am concerned that in many of the activities of our fraternity and our Grand Lodge, we simply are continuing to do the same old things that we always have done, and that we are continuing to do them in the same old way. Junior Grand Warden Bill Mathis is fond of quoting that *if you keep on doing what you've always done, you'll keep on getting what you've always got!*

ARE YOU SATISFIED WITH THE CONDITION OF OUR FRATERNITY?

Brethren, when any one takes an honest and objective look at our fraternity, he cannot fail to see that we have problems.

Membership. The term *membership* refers to the number of members that we have. Brother Shaun Bradshaw, the youngest member of Stokesdale No. 428, is a computer consultant in Greensboro. He has compiled some data on our membership statistics for the years 1931-1996.

In 1931, we had a total of 39,466 members in North Carolina. Over the next twelve years, we lost more members than we gained each year. In 1934 alone, we lost 3,951 members, leaving us with a membership of only 30,365. In 1942, we reached a low of 29,196 members. In 1943, however, things turned around for us. Our gains outnumbered our losses. Everyone knows that in the years following World War II, our membership grew greatly. We reached our peak of 73,076 members in 1982. Since that time, we have suffered a net loss in membership each year.

Many of you have heard of the new Internet Lodge No. 9659 in England. W. John L. Belton, the Charter Master, gave his inaugural address entitled *The Missing Master Mason*. His research on his Mother Lodge revealed that the period of time from initiation to resignation or expulsion has decreased rapidly, down from more than 20 years in the 1940s and '50s, to around 10 years in the mid-1970s, and then to 4-6 years in the 1980s or early 1990s. In order to test his theory, Brother Belton studied data from other Lodges in England, Australia, Canada and Montana. The results were almost identical. His second finding is that those who become Masons remain as members of the Craft for a significantly shorter period of time than they ever did in the past—about 20-30% of the time they did 50 years ago.

Writing in the September 1999 issue of *The Scottish Rite Journal*, Brother Joseph Bureski noted that in 1959, there were 4,103,161 Freemasons in America, and that in 1995—36 years later—there were only 2,153,316, a loss of 1,949,845, or 48% of our membership. Nearly half our members! American Freemasonry lost an average of 54,162 members each year. Projecting that annual rate of decline into the future, Bro. Bureski calculated that American Freemasonry can survive only another 40 years. Unless we take action, he stated, the year 2035 may be the *Year of the Last Master Mason*. Brethren, is that what you want?

In the *Proceedings of the Annual Communication of 1991*—the year I was appointed to the Grand Lodge Line—the Grand Secretary's Report revealed that as of December 31, 1990, in North Carolina we had a total of 67,514 members. The Grand Secretary's Report at our last Annual Communication disclosed that as of December 31, 1998, we had declined to 59,286 members, a total net loss of 8,228—or 12%—in only eight years.

If those losses are allowed to continue, it means that North Carolina Masonry can survive only another 40 years! I find it significant that the estimates for North Carolina are exactly the same as for the rest of the United States. Actually, at that rate of decline Freemasonry in North Carolina cannot survive another 40 years, because our subordinate Lodges and our Grand Lodge cannot survive with only a few thousand or a few hundred members.

Brethren, is that what you want?

Attendance. The next criterion by which our fraternity should be evaluated is attendance. The term *attendance* refers to the number of our Officers and members who attend the stated communications, degrees and other activities of their Lodges, the District Meetings, the Area Meetings, our Grand Lodge Annual Communication, and other Masonic events. We have heard it said many times that in most Lodges, only about 10% of the members regularly attend the stated communications. Even if another 15% of our members attend their Lodges occasionally, that leaves at least 75% who never set foot in a Lodge.

At the 1997 Annual Communication, only 366 subordinate Lodges were represented. That means that 18 Lodges sent no delegates to the Annual Communication, although under *The Code* this subjects them to the loss of their Charter. In 1998, that number rose to 20 Lodges which were not represented. Last year—1999—it increased to 21.

I have reviewed the Reports of the District Deputy Grand Masters from their 1999 District Meetings. At many of them, some Lodges were represented by only one or two or three members. We do not know if they were even officers. Some Lodges were not represented at all. They had absolutely no one in attendance. I also was greatly disappointed by the fact that many of our Lodge Officers did not attend my Area Meetings. At two Area Meetings, even the DDGMs—the personal representatives of the Grand Master—did not attend!

My last Area Meeting in Greensboro included nine Districts, with 50 Lodges. There were fewer than 30 Masters present. That means that more than 20 Masters—over 40%—were not responsible enough to attend. There were just over 20 Senior Wardens present. That means that nearly 30 of them—nearly 60%—were not responsible enough to attend. These are the brethren who, presumably, are the Masters of their Lodges this year. There were only 11 Junior Wardens present. That means that 39 of them—nearly 80%—were not responsible enough to attend.

At the recent Winter Area Masonic Education Seminars, many Lodges were not represented. I have heard it said many times that ours is a voluntary organization, and that we can expect only so much from our members. However, no one forced these brethren to join our fraternity or to accept offices in their Lodges. We all became Masons of our own free will and accord. We all freely and voluntarily assumed the responsibilities of the offices which we accepted. In the obligation that every Symbolic Lodge Officer takes during his installation, he promises to *faithfully perform the duties* of the office to which he has been selected. Yet, too many of our Officers are not doing that.

Our Lodges cannot function effectively when only 10% of their members attend. And our Lodges cannot function effectively when their officers are not responsible enough or do not know how to provide the leadership that is necessary for them to survive!

Brethren, is that what you want?

Ritual proficiency. Ritual proficiency is the third criterion by which our Craft must be evaluated. The term *ritual proficiency* refers to how closely our performance of our ritual comes to the standard prescribed by the OSW.

Sadly, brethren, there are Lodges in which the officers cannot open and close properly—even in December, at the end of the year. There are Lodges that cannot confer the degrees properly. Too many of our Lodges cannot get their officers and members to attend the degree practices and conferrals!

Brethren, is that what you want?

Financial security. The fourth criterion by which our organization must be evaluated is financial security. The term *financial security* refers to the financial soundness of our Lodges and our Grand Lodge, and our ability to meet our operating and maintenance needs and our charitable obligations. Too many of our Lodges do not have written annual budgets, as required by *The Code*. In setting their dues and application fees, too many of our Lodges have failed to keep current with inflation. Too many of our Lodges have no money in savings and no money in reserve in their annual budgets for maintenance and other needs that we all know are bound to arise.

Brethren, is that what you want?

Charitable giving. Charitable giving is the fifth criterion by which our fraternity must be judged. The term *charitable giving* refers to our support of our three traditional Masonic Charities—the Masonic and Eastern Star Home, the Masonic Home for Children, and the North Carolina Masonic Foundation—as well as our support of those in need in our local communities and elsewhere. The requirement of charitable giving has been an integral part of Freemasonry since at least the 16th century (the 1500s). The Preamble to the Constitution of our Grand Lodge contains a Declaration of Principles, to *define and reaffirm ... certain of the fundamental principles and rules of conduct governing the practice of Freemasonry in this Masonic jurisdiction....*

The second Declaration of Principles states that *Freemasonry is a charitable society in that it is ..., devoted to the promotion of the welfare and*

happiness of mankind. The third Declaration of Principles states that Freemasonry in North Carolina *is benevolent in that it teaches and exemplifies altruism as a duty.* The sixth Declaration of Principles states that the primary work of Freemasonry in North Carolina is education, worship and charity. The eighth Declaration of Principles states that, among other things, Freemasonry in North Carolina teaches and stands for fraternity and philanthropy.

We are taught that the three principal rounds of Jacob's ladder to Heaven were denominated *Faith, Hope and Charity*, and that motto is a part of the Seal of our Grand Lodge. In *The Code* of 1995, Reg. 58-3.5 states that the duties of a Freemason include the practice of charity. Reg. 86-2 expressly states that it is a specific Masonic offense to fail to discharge the duties of a Mason. In preparation for my Area Meetings last summer, I reviewed the charitable giving of our Lodges for the previous three years. At one Area Meeting, a Lodge with a membership of 116 gave only \$100 to Masonic Charity—an average of only 86 cents per member. At another Area Meeting, a Lodge with a membership of 137 gave only \$15.00 to Masonic Charity—an average of only 11 cents per member!

Brethren, is that what you want?

Community involvement. The sixth criterion by which our fraternity must be evaluated is community involvement. The term *community involvement* refers to how actively—if at all—our members and our Lodges support their local communities.

Many of our members and our Lodges actively support other organizations in their local communities. Sadly, too many of our Lodges do not engage in any activities in their local communities. They contribute absolutely nothing.

Brethren, is that what you want?

I fail to see how anyone can consider the problems that we are facing and fail to recognize our need to change. \It is obvious that what we are doing—or the way we are doing it—simply is not working. \More important, I fail to see how anyone who claims to love Freemasonry can idly and complacently sit by and watch it be destroyed!

These are grave and dangerous times for our Order. In a survey conducted by the Masonic Renewal Committee of North America, 8% of those questioned had never even heard of Freemasonry, the oldest organization in the world, and one of the world's greatest philanthropic orders. 38% had heard only of our name; 23% were not very familiar with our organization; and 22% were only somewhat familiar. In that same survey, of those males interested in joining organizations like Freemasonry, 51% were *definitely not* interested in joining us, and another 25% were *probably not* interested. Another 22% were only *maybe interested*, and only 2% were interested. It appears that we simply are not viewed as an organization that is relevant in today's society.

Brethren, is that what you want?

IT IS OBVIOUS THAT WE MUST MAKE SOME CHANGES!

The October 26, 1998, issue of *Fortune* magazine contained an article entitled *The World's Most Admired Companies*. Based on an annual study, it included names that we all recognize: GE, Coca Cola, Microsoft, Disney, Johnson & Johnson, Caterpillar, AT&T and IBM. All of these companies had the vision to create a plan, and the confidence to stick to it despite economic uncertainty. Indeed, Jack Welch, the CEO of GE, stated that *anytime there is change, there is opportunity. So it is paramount that an organization get energized rather than paralyzed.*

WE MUST GET ENERGIZED, NOT PARALYZED!

WE MUST MAKE THE CHANGES THAT ARE NECESSARY FOR OUR FRATERNITY TO SURVIVE AND THRIVE!

WE DON'T NEED TO CHANGE THE BASICS OF FREEMASONRY. Not the fundamental principles and tenets. Not what Freemasonry stands for. But we do need to change many of the things that we do, and the way in which we do them.

I want us to be like the most admired companies, and have a vision for what we want our fraternity to be and a plan for what we need to do to get there. We need to get energized, not paralyzed, and we need to be innovative and aggressive. I want us to be like the most admired companies, and have teamwork and consensus among our leadership and our membership regarding our priorities and our programs. No one has a monopoly on wisdom. The best decisions often are those which are reached through the judgement of the group. That also helps to ensure consensus and continuity. It is absolutely critical that we have teamwork among our leadership, and coordination and continuity in our programs. I want us to be like the most admired companies, and exercise initiative and innovativeness.

I want our fraternity to be one of the world's most admired organizations. I want it to attract and retain talented people. I want it to be focused on you, its members. I want it to be innovative and have quality programs. I want it to be financially sound. I want it to get energized rather than paralyzed, and to be prepared to take advantage of the opportunities that are presented by change. In short, I want to revitalize and renew Freemasonry.

In the movie *Field of Dreams*, the main character wanted to see the baseball heroes of by-gone days, who were dead. He dreamed that if he built a baseball field in his cornfield, they would come. *If you build it, they will come*, he kept repeating. It is the same with Freemasonry. If we build a quality program, good men will come. Our own members will come back. And new members will come to join us. And Freemasonry will survive and thrive. *If you build it, they will come!*

All of the above criteria are related. Taken together, they determine the health and vitality of our fraternity—or the lack thereof. What can we do? Well-known college football coach Lou Holtz has told us that *ability is what you're capable of doing. Motivation determines what you do. Attitude determines how well you do it.*

We have the ability. We just need to become more motivated. We need to develop a more committed attitude. In short, **WE NEED TO HAVE A MASONIC RENEWAL!!!**

Each and every one of us needs to renew our commitment and rededicate ourselves to our Lodges and our fraternity.

Our officers need to provide dedicated leadership and plan an aggressive program of activities for the year. The information and materials being offered by the new Masonic Leadership Development Task Force will show them how to do that.

We need to become proficient in our ritual. The Ritualistic Excellence Awards Program (REAP) and other initiatives coming out of the Board of Custodians will help greatly.

We need to offer Masonic Education programs. The Masonic Education Committee has prepared a series of interesting programs. All we need to do is use them.

We need to offer special events, such as open Installation of Officers, Open House, Ladies' Night, Past Masters' Night, and Awards Night. We must give our members an attractive and appealing reason to come to Lodge. We are competing for their limited time. We must make them want to come.

We must eliminate waste and inefficiency, and set our dues at a level that will allow us to maintain our fraternity.

We need to involve our families in our Lodge activities, and we need to get our Lodges involved in our local communities.

We need to get our Lodges involved in fund-raising activities, and we need to keep a portion of the money raised for charity in our local communities.

We need to be innovative in everything that we do, and—yes—we need to change the way that we do some of the things that we do.

WE MUST STRIVE FOR MASONIC EXCELLENCE!!!

I recently saw an interesting quotation printed on a tee-shirt. It read, *If it is to be, it is up to me*. Brethren, if Freemasonry is to survive and thrive in the new millennium, **IT IS UP TO EACH AND EVERY ONE OF US!** Together, we **CAN** make a difference. It will not be easy. Our problems did not develop overnight, and they cannot be solved overnight. But with dedication and hard work—and, yes, fun—**WE CAN SAVE FREEMASONRY!**

We **CAN** prevent the destruction of Freemasonry! We **CAN** have a Masonic renewal! We **CAN** reclaim “The Missing Master Masons.” We **CAN** prevent “The Year of the Last Master Mason.” We **CAN** have fun. We **CAN** have Masonic excellence!

Live On! O Masonry, Live On!
 Thy Work Hath Scarce Begun;
 Live On! Nor End, If End There Be,
 Till Earth's Last Setting Sun.
 Live On! Thy Work in Ages Past,
 Hath but Prepared the Way;
 for Every Truth Thy Symbols Teach
 There's Pressing Need Today.
 In Cultured or Unlettered Age
 Humanity's the Same,
 and Evermore the Passions Rage,
 Whose Furies Thou Wouldst Tame.
 Would but the Nations Heed Thy Plumb,
 War's Carnage Soon Would End;
 Thy Level Rivalries Subdue,
 Thy Square to Virtue Tend.
 Thy Trowel Spread That True Cement,
 Which Doth All Hearts Unite,
 and Darkness Comprehend
 And Glow with Thy Immortal Light.
 Live On! O Masonry, Live On!
 So Mote it Be!

RECOMMENDATIONS

I have included my recommendations at the conclusion of the discussion of the various subjects hereinabove, and in the interest of time and space will not repeat them here.

PROPOSED LEGISLATION

I have included my proposals for legislation and changes to *The Code* in the recommendations which are more particularly set forth hereinabove, and in the interest of time and space will not repeat them here.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

It is fitting and proper that I take this opportunity to express my appreciation to several people who have played an important role in my stewardship as Grand Master.

First, to my parents. My mother, the late Thelma Capps Ingram, taught me many lessons which have stood me in good stead as I have journeyed through life. My father, the late Paul Ingram, who was a sterling example of both a man and a Mason. I cherish our Masonic membership together. I dedicated this year of service to him. I will never, never forget them.

Next, to my *Masonic Father*, M. W. Lester P. Martin, Jr., Past Grand Master, who appointed me to the Grand Lodge Line in 1991. I have treasured his wise counsel and support, and I sincerely hope that my performance has not disappointed him. And also, to my *Masonic Mother*, Elizabeth W. Martin, his wife, who pleaded my cause with him. Carolyn and I have come to love Lester and Elizabeth, and we cherish their friendship.

I greatly appreciate the Past Grand Masters who have shared their experience and wisdom with me. The poet noted that *no man is an island*, and I can assure everyone that no Grand Master acts alone. The responsibilities of the office are too overwhelming. He must have the advice and assistance of those who have preceded him. I will always be indebted to these Most Worshipful Brethren.

The Grand Lodge Officers have been a great help to me. I highly value their friendship, and greatly appreciate their support. Brethren, I can assure you that I will be there for you if ever you need me.

I greatly appreciate the Chairmen and members of the Boards, Commissions and Committees which whom I have served this year. I take great pride in the many successes that we have accomplished together. Remember, brethren: T.E.A.M.—Together Everyone Accomplishes More.

My Lodge and its members have meant a great deal to me through the years. They have served as a great inspiration. I am the first Grand Master to come from my Lodge in its entire history since November 20, 1788. Brethren, I am proud of you.

My Grand Tyler, W. K. Patrick Bell, is my next-door neighbor, and a very dear friend. He is serving as Master of our Lodge this year, and has initiated a very ambitious plan, already achieving much success. I greatly appreciate all of the evenings when he accompanied me on my travels, and drove for me in order to enable me to complete my remarks or some other business. I greatly enjoyed our time spent together.

R. W. T. Walton Clapp, III, Grand Secretary, and W. Richard E. Carter, Assistant to the Grand Secretary, have been very helpful to me this year. I greatly appreciate everything that they have done for me.

W. James L. Medlin, Director of Development, has given me a great deal of assistance, both last year and this year. Jim has done a wonderful job in assisting with our leadership seminars.

The ladies in Grand Lodge Executive Offices are due our thanks for everything that they do for our fraternity. I am glad that I have had the opportunity to work with them this year. Mrs. Joyce Watson, who retired last December, handled many of my Dispensations and other paperwork with dispatch. Ms. Cornelia Doherty has provided great support to me this year. Ms. Paula Strother, the financial assistant, has done an excellent job of giving us greater information on our budget and finances. And Ms. Donna Lyons, who replaced Mrs. Watson, quickly has become a member of the team. Thank you, ladies, for all that you have done for me. Carolyn and I have enjoyed working with you.

SPECIAL APPRECIATION

I would be inexcusably remiss if I did not acknowledge the unwavering support that I have received this year from my wife, Carolyn. In addition to being my marriage partner, she also is my law partner. Many times this year, she has carried the load for me in our office while I attended to my Masonic duties. She has cheered me when I was frustrated, and encouraged me when I was discouraged. Often, she has given me the will to persevere. She is my rock. She is my most trusted advisor. She is my best friend. Except for God, she is the most precious thing to me. She has sacrificed alongside me for the past 21 years, and we are looking forward to being able to spend more relaxed time together. She has earned it, and she deserves it. I can never repay her. I am forever in her debt.

Brethren, I also would be extremely remiss if I did not convey my thanks and undying appreciation to you for the great honor you bestowed upon me when you elected me Grand Master. Never in my wildest dreams did it ever occur to me that I would wear the purple of our fraternity. I have tried to work hard on your behalf, and I hope that my efforts have met with your approbation. I have sought the guidance of God every day, and I hope that my actions have been pleasing in His sight.

Brethren, never forget the true principles and tenets of Freemasonry. Faith, Hope, Charity, Friendship, Morality, Brotherly Love. These are not mere empty phrases. They are the very life-blood of our beloved fraternity. Let us endeavor to take them into our hearts and minds and consciences, and let us strive to display and demonstrate them in our daily lives and in our interactions with our fellow human beings. Let's Practice Freemasonry!

Let us spread the cement of brotherly love and affection, so that we are united into one sacred band, or society of friends and brothers, *among whom no contention should ever exist, but that noble contention, or rather emulation, of who can best work and best agree.*

Do good unto all. Recommend it more especially to the household of the faithful. Finally, brethren, be ye all of one mind; live in peace; and may the God of love and peace delight to dwell with and bless you!

So Mote It Be!

Respectfully submitted,
Charles Marshall Ingram
146th Grand Master of Masons
in North Carolina, 1999-2000

Report of The Board Of General Purposes On The Distribution of The Report of The Grand Master

(Docket No. 41)

The following report of the Board of General Purposes on the distribution of the Report of the Grand Master was read by Grand Secretary T. Walton Clapp, III, entered on the record and unanimously adopted:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

The Board of General Purposes in compliance with the provisions of *The Code*, has reviewed and carefully considered the report of Grand Master, Most Worshipful Brother Charles M. Ingram in all of its details and submits this report:

The Board recommends:

- (1) That the parts of the Grand Master's report that relate to orders and

other legal matters, be referred to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence.

(2) That the portions relative to matters of finance be referred to the Committee on Finance.

(3) That the portions concerning the Masonic Home for Children at Oxford and the Masonic and Eastern Star Home, respectively, be referred to the respective boards of those institutions.

(4) As provided in Regulation 11-4(2), we recommend the adoption of the honorary title of Past District Deputy Grand Master to those brethren contained in the Report of the Grand Master.

(5) That all other matters be assigned without further specific reference to the committee or commissions which should properly consider them.

Respectfully submitted,
Charles E. Cathey, Deputy Grand Master
William L. Mills III, Senior Grand Warden
William G. Mathis, Junior Grand Warden
Clifton W. Everett Jr., Grand Treasurer
T. Walton Clapp III, Grand Secretary
Larry P. Pittman
W. Berry Rigdon
H. Lloyd Wilkerson
Lewis R. Ledford
Lester P. Martin, Jr., PGM
Robert E. Gresham, Jr.

Presentation of Plaque

(Docket No. 42)

Richard E. Fletcher, Executive Secretary of The Masonic Service Association, presented a plaque to Grand Master Ingram thanking him for his promotion and support of The Masonic Service Association of North America and its programs.

Presentation of Plaque by the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association

(Docket No. 43)

Frank R. Dunaway Jr., member of the board of directors of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association presented a plaque to Grand Master Charles M. Ingram for his promotion and support of its programs.

Report of the Committee On Appeals

(Docket No. 44)

The following report of the Committee on Appeals was read by Chairman Thomas D. Haigwood and upon motion duly seconded, was adopted by sections then adopted as a whole.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

1. We have reviewed the record on all cases which have been completed since the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge in 1999 and now

pending before the Committee wherein the accused has been expelled under the provisions of Regulations 98-13 of *The Code* of 1995, as amended; and those in which the accused appealed from the decision of the Judge Advocate or the Trial Commission. We particularly directed our attention to strict compliance with the Regulations. In each of these cases, we recommend that the decision of the Judge Advocate or the Trial Commission, as the case may be, be affirmed by the Grand Lodge.

a. Trial Docket No. 672: In the matter of charges preferred against GEL, a Master Mason and member of Union Lodge No. 618 for unmasonic conduct in which a duly constituted trial commission on July 23, 1999 issued a decision expelling the accused.

The judgement was sustained.

b. Trial Docket No. 673: In the matter of charges preferred against WMB, Jr., a Master Mason and member of Palmyra Lodge No. 147 for conviction of a felony in which the Judge Advocate on May 3, 1999 issued a decision expelling the accused.

The judgement was sustained.

c. Trial Docket No. 674: In the matter of charges preferred against CWL, a Master Mason and member of Selma Lodge No. 320 for unmasonic conduct in which a duly constituted Trial Commission on June 25, 1999 issued a decision expelling the accused.

The judgement was sustained.

d. Trial Docket No. 675: In the matter of charges preferred against LLM, a Master Mason and member of Robbinsville Lodge No. 672 for conviction of a felony in which the Judge Advocate on March 24, 2000 issued a decision expelling the accused.

The judgement was sustained.

e. Trial Docket No. 676: In the matter of charges preferred against RDW, a Master Mason and member of Ionic Lodge No. 583 for conviction of a felony in which the Judge Advocate issued a decision expelling the accused.

The judgement was sustained.

2. The Committee also considered the following petitions for restoration:

a. Trial Docket No. 622: In the matter of JBM, Jr., a former Master Mason and member of Seaside Lodge No. 429 who was expelled on July 5, 1994 for conviction of a felony.

The Committee on Appeals carefully reviewed this file and recommends that the Petitioners request for reinstatement be denied.

The petition was denied.

Respectfully submitted,
Thomas D. Haigwood
Forrest D. Ball
John R. Litaker
Rickey T. Matthews
Walter F. McCall, PGM

CALLED FROM LABOR TO REFRESHMENT

Prayer was offered by Acting Grand Chaplain A. G. Cobb, and the Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment until 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 29, 2000 in the Raleigh Civic and Convention Center.

**Second Day - Morning Session
Call From Refreshment to Labor**

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 29, 2000 in the Raleigh Civic and Convention Center, Raleigh, North Carolina by Grand Master Charles M. Ingram. Prayer was offered by Acting Grand Chaplain A. G. Cobb.

**Resolution:
Change the Order of Business
On the Second Day - Morning Session
Of The Annual Communication**

(Docket No. 45)

WHEREAS, the delegates at the first session of the Grand Lodge approved a change in the order of business of the first day to consider the amendments to *The Code*, and

WHEREAS, the speeches ran over the allotted time, and

WHEREAS, if we had kept to schedule on the first day, we would have considered the amendments for per capita tax prior to the report of the Finance Committee at 9:00 a.m. on the second day,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that amendments regarding per capita tax be acted upon prior to the report of the Finance Committee for the 2000 budget.

Respectfully submitted,
Joseph K. Transou, PM
Hiram 40, proxy

APPROVED

The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence presented the Amendment Groups 12 and 13. The amendments and their disposition are included within the Report of the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence. (Docket No. 46)

Report of the Committee on Finance

(Docket No. 46)

The following report of the Committee on Finance was presented by Dan C. Rice, adopted by sections, and then adopted as a whole:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

We recommend the Charity Fund transfer to the North Carolina Masonic Foundation the sum of \$6,000.

We recommend that \$25,000.00 be transferred from the General Fund to the Building Reserve Fund.

Respectfully submitted,
Charles M. Cathey, Deputy Grand Master
William L. Mills, III, Senior Grand Warden
William G. Mathis, Junior Grand Warden
Dan C. Rice, Chairman
Graham W. Pervier, Grand Steward

Alan W. Madsen
G. Glen Adams
Robert S. W. Martin
Jacob R. Abernathy, DDGM 54
R. Phillips Presley
Daniel R. Bishop
Committee on Finance

(Note: See Docket No. 3, page 45 of these Proceedings for the 2000 budget.)

Report of the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence

(Docket No. 47)

The following report of the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence was presented by Past Grand Master, Richard G. Moore. The recommendation of the committee on each section was adopted, or rejected as indicated. The report was then adopted as a whole.

Each subject for vote is followed by the committee recommendation and the vote of the delegates to Grand Lodge.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

Your Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence respectfully submits the following report. For convenient reference, we use the same subjects, titles and subdivisions of the Address of the Grand Master, as used by him or the Docket Number used in any report, or other documents submitted for our consideration and action in all of our references to those matters and subjects.

Orders of the Grand Master

Order No. 1

It has been brought to my attention by the Grand Secretary's office that Union Lodge No. 618 elected Edward Robert Kalinoski to receive the degrees on October 11, 1999, without the Petition having been first mailed to the Grand Secretary's office for his checking and recording.

The ballot on October 1, 1999, is clearly illegal under the positive language of Regulation 65-8 of *The Code*, and is, therefore, NULL and VOID.

Since the Grand Master is empowered to order another ballot in cases of this kind, I hereby order a re-ballot to Union Lodge No. 618 at the stated communication to be held on December 13, 1999.

This order shall be read to the lodge at the next stated communication, entered on the minutes of that communication, and a proper notation made on the margin of the minutes for October 11, 1999, referring to this Order and the date it was recorded in the minutes.

Given under my hand and seal at Kenansville, North Carolina, this 12th day of November 1999.

The Committee recommended that Order No. 1 be approved.

The Grand Lodge approved Order No. 1.

Order No. 2

THIS CAUSE coming on to be heard, and having been heard, before the undersigned, Grand Master of Masons in North Carolina, on January 12, 2000, in Kenansville, Duplin County, North Carolina, upon a report of the violation of Regulation 43-12 of *The Code* of 1995 by Lowell Lodge No. 590;

AND IT APPEARING that a sufficient investigation has been made, the undersigned Grand Master hereby makes the following:

Findings of Fact:

1. On July 8, 1999, Lowell Lodge No. 590 submitted to the Grand Lodge Committee on Subordinate Lodge Special Activities a financial report indicating that it had conducted a fund-raising activity—a chicken dinner—on October 2, 1998. However, the Lodge did not apply for nor obtain the approval of the Grand Lodge Committee on Subordinate Lodge Special Activities before doing so. In its report, Lowell Lodge No. 590 indicated that for such fund-raising event it has total receipts of \$4,750.00, expenses of \$3,086.00, for a net profit of \$1,664.00.

2. On January 8, 1999, Lowell Lodge No. 590 submitted to the Grand Lodge Committee on Subordinate Lodge Special Activities an application seeking approval to conduct another fund-raising activity—a food project—on March 12, 1999. In its application, the Lodge indicated that it had held its last fund-raising activity on November 18, 1998. The Lodge also indicated that the proceeds of the proposed event also were designated for the Lodge building fund, specifically to construct a new roof and to install a new heating and air conditioning system. In its application, the Lodge represented the cost of the project to be approximately \$30,000.00. Approval was given, and the fund-raising event—another chicken dinner—was held. On May 13, 1999, the Lodge filed the required financial report indicating that it had total receipts of \$5,855.50, expenses of \$1,215.20, for a net profit of \$4,640.30.

3. On May 20, 1999, Lowell Lodge No. 590 submitted to the Grand Lodge Committee on Subordinate Lodge Special Activities an application seeking approval to conduct another fund-raising activity—another chicken dinner—on August 13, 1999. The application was mailed on June 4, 1999, and received by the Grand Lodge Committee on June 14, 1999. In its application, the Lodge indicated that it had held its last fund-raising activity on March 13, 1998. Once again, the Lodge indicated that the proceeds of the proposed event were for the Lodge building fund, specifically to construct a new roof and to install a new heating and air conditioning system. In its application, the Lodge represented the cost of the roof project to be approximately \$18,000.00, and the cost of the heating and air conditioning project to be approximately \$8,500.00.

4. Prior to August 2, 1999, the Grand Lodge Committee Chairman, Worshipful Brother Thomas, contacted the Master, Brother JEW, and discussed the application and proposed fund-raising activity with him. Brother JEW advised that the food for the project already had been purchased, and that the tickets already had been printed and distributed.

5. During that conversation, and in a letter dated August 2, 1999, Worshipful Brother Thomas advised the Master, Brother Wilson, that, while the Committee understood the Lodge's great need to have the designated repairs made as soon as possible, it was not appropriate for the Lodge to try to raise the funds from the public. During said conversation, and in said letter dated August 2, 1999, approval was granted for Lowell Lodge No. 590 to hold the proposed fund-raising activity, upon the condition that the proceeds be given to the Masonic Charities, to which the Master reluctantly agreed. The Lodge was reminded of the requirements to provide proof of insurance, and to submit a financial report within sixty (60) days after completing the project.

6. Lowell Lodge No. 590 has failed to file the financial report required by *The Code* for the said August 1999 chicken dinner fund-raising event.

7. On November 10, 1999, while visiting another Lodge, Worshipful

Brother Charles Ray Thomas, Chairman of the Grand Lodge Committee on Subordinate Lodge Special Activities, heard a brother announce that Lowell Lodge No. 590 was conducting a fund-raising activity—a beef tip dinner—on November 12, 1999.

8. Worshipful Brother Thomas contacted Worshipful Brother James C. Abernathy, the District Deputy Grand Master for the 54th Masonic District, in which Lowell Lodge No. 590 is located, and discussed the matter with him.

9. The District Deputy Grand Master indicated that he first heard about the beef tip dinner during his official visit to Lowell Lodge No. 590 on November 2, 1999. During his visit, he heard members of the Lodge discuss it briefly, but there was no mention of the proceeds going to the Lodge building fund. Worshipful Brother Abernathy indicated that it never occurred to him that the Lodge had failed to obtain the required permission to conduct the fund-raising activity.

10. Worshipful Brother Abernathy contacted the Master, Brother Wilson, and discussed the matter with him. The Master stated that the Lodge was charging \$6.00 per plate, and that it had mailed four tickets to each member.

11. After being advised that the Lodge need to apply for and obtain the required approval to hold the scheduled fund-raising activity, the Master replied that he was going to go ahead and hold it.

12. Following his conversation with the District Deputy Grand Master, Worshipful Brother Thomas, the Grand Lodge Committee Chairman, telephoned the Grand Master to inform him of the situation.

13. On November 11, 1999, the Grand Master telephoned the District Deputy Grand Master to discuss the matter with him. Worshipful Brother Abernathy confirmed the foregoing account, and further stated that the District Deputy Grand Lecturer, Brother CKG, JR., who also is the Secretary of Lowell Lodge No. 590, also had advised the Master that the Lodge was required to obtain permission before conducting the fund-raising activity, but that the Master ignored him.

14. On November 12, 1999, at the request of the Grand Master, Worshipful Brother James C. Abernathy, the District Deputy Grand Master for the 54th Masonic District, attended the beef tips dinner fund-raising event held by Lowell Lodge No. 590. It appeared to the District Deputy Grand Master that the Lodge had pre-sold some tickets, and also that it was selling plates to the general public.

15. Regulation 43-12 of *The Code* of 1995 sets forth the conditions under which subordinate Lodges may engage in fund-raising activities for Masonic Charity.

16. Regulation 43-12 grants to each subordinate Lodge blanket approval to conduct fund-raising activities in the manner prescribed.

17. Such requirements include:

A. The activity is conducted over a period of no more than three (3) consecutive days.

B. The activity is conducted no more often than annually.

C. The activity is one of the following:

(1) The sale of food or food products;

(2) The sale of pre-priced goods; or,

(3) The sale of items by auction.

18. Regulation 43-12 requires that a subordinate Lodge conducting any fund-raising activity shall complete that activity within sixty (60) days of beginning the project.

19. Regulation 43-12 also requires that a subordinate Lodge conducting any fund-raising activity shall file a financial report on the project with the Grand Lodge Committee on Subordinate Lodge Special Activities within sixty (60) days after completing the project.

20. Regulation 43-12 further requires that the Lodge shall report the type of project, the purpose for which it was conducted, funds to be accounted for and distribution of profits.

21. Regulation 43-12 also requires that Lodges conducting any fund-raising activity shall complete any fund-raising project already underway before beginning another project.

22. Regulation 77-1 provides in pertinent part that each Lodge shall fix in its Bylaws and shall collect such annual dues from its membership as may be necessary to enable it to maintain itself and discharge all of its duties and obligations.

23. However, Regulation 43-12 provides that a subordinate Lodge desiring to conduct any fund-raising activity for its own benefit, or any fund-raising activity other than those specified, shall first submit an application detailing the planned project and its purpose to the Grand Lodge Committee on Subordinate Lodge Special Activities, and must receive its approval before actively undertaking the project.

24. Regulation 43-2 provides in pertinent part that a subordinate Lodge shall obey the laws of the Grand Lodge.

25. Regulation 59-2.27 provides in pertinent part that it is the duty of the Master of a subordinate Lodge to guard carefully against any infraction of the laws of the Grand Lodge.

26. Regulation 90-10.2 provides in pertinent part that it is a Masonic offense to violate the Constitution, Regulations, laws, rules or edicts of the Grand Lodge. or fail to observe the same.

27. Regulation 90-10.3 provides in pertinent part that it is a Masonic offense to disobey lawful Masonic authority.

28. Regulation 90-10.4 provides in pertinent part that it is a Masonic offense to use contemptuous, disrespectful or provocative language or conduct toward any lawful Masonic authority at a time and place when such authority is acting as such.

29. Regulation 61-3.2 requires that each subordinate Lodge have a written budget of the estimated income and expenditures of the Lodge for the fiscal year.

30. Lowell Lodge No. 590 does not have a written annual budget.

31. The annual dues of Lowell Lodge No. 590 are \$40.00 per year.

32. A motion to amend the Bylaws of Lowell Lodge No. 590 to increase the annual dues was defeated.

33. Regulation 13-2.10 in pertinent part provides that the Grand Master has the authority to suspend from office any officer of a subordinate Lodge, upon satisfactory evidence of neglect, or for any serious or flagrant omission in the performance of his duties.

34. Regulation 58-1 provides in pertinent part that the Grand Master has the authority to suspend from office any officer of a subordinate Lodge, if in the judgement of the Grand Master the officer is guilty of misconduct, neglect, or serious or flagrant omission in the performance of his official duties, and if the Grand Master deems it to be for the good of Masonry.

35. Regulation 43-12.8 provides that a subordinate Lodge conducting any project without obtaining prior approval when required or in a manner other than allowed by *The Code*, or which shall divert funds for other than the stated purpose, shall be required to show cause why its Charter should not be arrested.

36. Regulation 13-3.4 provides that the Grand Master has the authority to arrest the Charter of a subordinate Lodge when he deems it proper to do so.

37. Regulation 41-10.1 provides that the Charter of a subordinate Lodge may be arrested or revoked for disobedience of any provision that the Lodge may be arrested or revoked for disobedience of any provision of *The Code*, Regulations, laws, orders or edicts, of the Grand Lodge.

38. Regulation 41-10.2 provides in pertinent part that the Charter of a subordinate Lodge may be arrested or revoked for failure to recognize the lawful authority of the Grand Master, or his authorized deputy, or of any other authorized officer or agent of the Grand Lodge.

39. Regulation 41-10.10 provides in pertinent part that the Charter of a subordinate Lodge may be arrested or revoked for a depreciated condition of the Lodge as to finances.

40. Regulation 44-11 provides that the Grand Master may arrest the Charter of a subordinate Lodge for any of the reasons stated.

AND BASED UPON THE FOREGOING facts as found, the undersigned Grand Master makes the following:

1. Lowell Lodge No. 590 has supported and contributed to Masonic Charities, and it is to be commended for its charitable efforts.

2. Lowell Lodge No. 590 has failed to have a written budget of the estimated income and expenditures of the Lodge for the fiscal year, in violation of Regulation 61-3.2.

3. Lowell Lodge No. 590 has failed to fix in its Bylaws and collect such annual dues from its membership as necessary to enable it to maintain itself and discharge all of its duties and obligations, in violation of Regulation 77-1.

4. Lowell Lodge No. 590 has conducted fund-raising activities without first applying for and obtaining the approval of the prescribed authority, to wit: the Grand Lodge Committee on Subordinate Lodge Special Activities, in violation of Regulation 43-12.7.

5. The expenses reported by Lowell Lodge No. 590 for its unauthorized fund-raising activity held on October 2, 1998, appear to be improperly high, particularly when compared to the expenses reported for the same type of event held on March 12, 1999.

6. Lowell Lodge No. 590 has failed to file financial reports in a timely manner, in violation of Regulation 43-12.9.

7. Lowell Lodge No. 590 has failed to comply with numerous requests from the Grand Lodge Committee on Subordinate Lodge Special Activities to supply further information pertaining to their fund-raising activities.

8. Lowell Lodge No. 590 intentionally and willfully has ignored *The Code*.

9. Lowell Lodge No. 590 intentionally, willfully and flagrantly has violated *The Code*.

10. Lowell Lodge No. 590 intentionally, willfully and flagrantly has failed to recognize the lawful authority of the Grand Master, or his authorized deputy, or of any other authorized officer or agent of the Grand Lodge.

11. The Master of Lowell Lodge No. 590 during the year 1999 was guilty of neglect, or serious or flagrant omission in the performance of his office, as provided by Regulation 13-2.0.

12. The Master of Lowell Lodge No. 590 during the year 1999 was guilty of neglect, or serious or flagrant omission in the performance of his official duties, as provided by Regulation 58-1.

13. The Master of Lowell Lodge No. 590 during the year 1999 intentionally, and willfully ignored *The Code*.

14. The Master of Lowell Lodge No. 590 during the year 1999 intentionally, willfully and flagrantly violated *The Code*.

15. The Master of Lowell Lodge No. 590 during the year 1999 intentionally, willfully and flagrantly failed to recognize the lawful authority of the Grand Master, or his authorized deputy, or of any other authorized officer or agent of the Grand Lodge, and has ignored and rejected the advice and counsel of lawful Masonic authority.

16. If this matter had come to light in ample time before the installation of his successor, JEW, the Master of Lowell Lodge No. 590 during the year 1999 should have been removed and suspended from office, and he now should be barred and prohibited from holding office in a subordinate Lodge in North Carolina for five years, effective immediately.

17. Lowell Lodge No. 590 should be directed and ordered to show cause, if any there be, why its Charter should not be arrested and revoked.

AND BASED UPON THE FOREGOING facts as specially found, and the foregoing conclusions as separately stated,

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS CONSIDERED, ADJUDGED, DECREED AND ORDERED:

1. Brother JEW hereby is barred and prohibited from holding any office in a subordinate Lodge in North Carolina for a period of five (5) years, effective immediately.

2. Lowell Lodge No. 590 hereby is directed and ordered to show cause, if any there be, why its charter should not be arrested and revoked.

3. Lowell Lodge No. 590 hereby is given thirty (30) days from the date of this Order to show such cause, if any there be, why its Charter should not be arrested and revoked.

4. The personal representative of the Grand Master, in the person of the District Deputy Grand Master for the 54th Masonic District, currently Worshipful Brother James C. Abernathy, shall be present at each and every Communication of Lowell Lodge No. 590, for a period of three (3) years, effectively immediately.

5. The District Deputy Grand Master for the 54th Masonic District shall have the right and authority to appoint someone else to act in his place, should the need arise to do so.

6. No Communication of Lowell Lodge No. 590 shall take place, occur or be held unless such personal representative of the Grand Master is present.

7. Any future Master of Lowell Lodge No. 590 who willfully, intentionally or knowingly permits or allows the Lodge to violate *The Code*, or fails to cooperate with the Grand Lodge Committee on Subordinate Lodge Special Activities, shall be removed from office.

8. Lowell Lodge No. 590 should continue its admirable support of Masonic Charities in a way and manner that is totally compatible and in full compliance with the tax laws, rules and regulations of the federal, state and local governments, and the laws, rules and regulations of Masonry and the Grand Lodge of North Carolina.

9. This Order shall be read in open Lodge at the first State Communication after its receipt, and a copy shall be attached to, and made a part of, the official Minutes of such Stated Communication.

ENTERED AND GIVEN under my hand and Seal, at Kenansville, North Carolina, this January 12th, 2000.

The Committee recommended that Order No. 2 be approved.

The Grand Lodge approved Order No. 2.

Order No. 3

I have examined the file in the matter of Brother AFP who was rejected for restoration for nonpayment of dues. The ballot to reject Brother AFP was declared before the lodge had an opportunity to re-ballot as provided under Regulation 68-3.13 and 68-3.20 of *The Code*. Under the positive language of 68-8, the ballot to reject on January 10, 2000 is hereby declared NULL and VOID.

Since the Grand Master is empowered to order another ballot, I hereby ORDER a re-ballot and grant a dispensation to Gaston Lodge No. 263 to hold the ballot on the application for restoration for nonpayment of dues of Brother AFP at a stated communication on February 14, 2000.

Also, in compliance with Regulation 68-8.2 of *The Code*, I hereby Order you to notify all of the members of your lodge by first-class mail of the re-ballot on the application for restoration and the date of the re-ballot, being certain to give the members at least ten days notice.

This Order shall be read to the lodge at the stated communication to be held February 14, 2000, entered on the minutes of that communication and a proper notation made on the margin of the minutes of January 10, 2000, referring to this Order and the date it was recorded in the minutes.

Given under my hand and seal at Kenansville, North Carolina, this 21st day of January, 2000.

The Committee recommended that Order No. 3 be approved.

The Grand Lodge approved Order No. 3.

Order No. 4

It has been brought to my attention by the Grand Secretary that Rehoboth Lodge No. 279 elected Brother CRS to membership without complying with the following provisions of Regulation 75-15 of *The Code*.

1. The application for affiliation was read at a stated communication in January 10, 2000, and the ballot to elect him was taken at the same stated communication, without holding the said application over for the required twenty-eight days and appointing a committee of investigation thereon.

2. The application for affiliation was not sent to the Grand Secretary for checking and recording and received by you duly certified by him before the ballot was taken to elect Brother CRS.

The ballot taken on January 10, 2000 to elect Brother CRS is clearly illegal under the positive language of Regulation 68-1.3 of *The Code* and is, therefore, NULL and VOID.

Since the Grand Master is empowered to order another ballot in cases of this kind, I hereby order a re-ballot to Rehoboth Lodge No. 279 at the stated communication to be held February 7, 2000. The Grand Secretary will make a record of this application for affiliation and place certification thereon. After receipt of the application for affiliation, the Master shall appoint the proper committee of investigation thereon.

This Order shall be read to the Lodge at the stated communication to be held on February 7, 2000, entered on the minutes of that communication and a proper notation made on the margin of the minutes for the stated communication on January 10, 2000, referring to this Order and the date it was recorded in the minutes.

Given under my hand and seal at Kenansville, North Carolina, this 3rd day of February, 2000.

The Committee recommended that Order No. 4 be approved.

The Grand Lodge approved Order No. 4.

Order No. 5

It has been brought to my attention by the Grand Secretary's office that Blackmer Lodge No. 170 received the application for affiliation of HGW on January 20, 2000, and elected him to membership on March 14, 2000 without the application having been first certified by the Grand Secretary's office and returned to the lodge.

The ballot taken on March 14, 2000 to elect Brother HGW is clearly illegal under the positive language of Regulation 68-1.2 of *The Code*, and is therefore, NULL and VOID.

Since the Grand Master is empowered to order another ballot in cases of this kind, I hereby order a re-ballot to Blackmer Lodge No. 170 at the stated communication to be held on May 9, 2000 if the applicant can forward a signed request for a demit. If this cannot be accomplished by May 9, 2000, the lodge shall then ballot on his application at the stated communication to be held on June 13, 2000.

This Order shall be read to the lodge at the next stated communication, entered on the minutes of that communication and a proper notation made on the margin of the minutes for March 14, 2000, referring to this Order and the date it was recorded in the minutes.

Given under my hand and seal at Kenansville, North Carolina, this 5th day of April, 2000.

The Committee recommended that Order No. 5 be approved.

The Grand Lodge approved Order No. 5.

Order No. 6

It has been brought to my attention by the Grand Secretary's office that Blackmer Lodge No. 170 received the application for affiliation of RAS on November 2, 1999, and elected him to membership on November 9, 1999 with the application having been first certified by the Grand Secretary's office and returned to the lodge.

The ballot taken on November 9, 1999 to elect Brother RAS is clearly illegal under the positive language of Regulation 68-1.2 of *The Code*, and is therefore, NULL and VOID.

Since the Grand Master is empowered to order another ballot in cases of this kind, I hereby order a re-ballot to Blackmer Lodge No. 170 at the stated communication to be held on May 9, 2000 if the applicant can forward a signed request for a demit. If this cannot be accomplished by May 9, 2000, the lodge shall then ballot on this application at the stated communication to be held on June 13, 2000.

This Order shall be read to the lodge at the next stated communication, entered on the minutes of that communication and a proper notation made on the margin of the minutes for November 9, 1999, referring to this Order and the date it was recorded in the minutes.

Given under my hand and seal at Kenansville, North Carolina, this 5th day of April, 2000.

The Committee recommended that Order No. 6 be approved.

The Grand Lodge approved Order No. 6.

Opinion No. 1

The Master of Seaside Lodge No. 429 in Swansboro, North Carolina, has inquired if it is lawful for the Lodge to purchase and install a Masonic sign on the display containing signs of civic and other organizations at the entrance to their community.

In the past such signs were discouraged, if not prohibited. The objection has been that Regulations 25-1 and 25-2 of *The Code* of 1995 prohibit joint enterprises. However, these Regulations by their express language apply to the erection, ownership, or management of buildings for Masonic use. (Emphasis added)

I do not find that any of the Regulations contained in *The Code* specifically or expressly prohibit the purchase, installation or erection, or display of a Masonic sign alongside the signs of civic and other organizations at the entrances to the communities in which our Lodges are located.

Furthermore, Regulation 34-22 was adopted recently, for the purpose of establishing a Masonic Public Relations Program in our Grand Jurisdiction. This Regulation specifically states that the Committee "shall develop and implement programs designed to increase public awareness of Freemasonry... and through appropriate methods to make the public aware of the good effects and purpose of the Masonic Fraternity."

Therefore, it is my official opinion that it is the correct Masonic law in this particular matter that the purchase, erection and/or installation of a Masonic sign on the display with the signs of civic and other organizations at the entrances to the communities in which our Lodges are located in North Carolina, is proper and permitted, and that the same hereby are approved and authorized, in accordance with the policies, rules or regulations adopted or prescribed by the Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Public Relations.

Given under my hand and seal at Kenansville, North Carolina, this the 10th day of September, 1999.

The Committee recommended that Opinion No. 1 be approved.

The Grand Lodge approved Opinion No. 1.

Opinion No. 2 and 3

The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence reviewed Opinions No. 2 and 3. The committee's consensus was that these questions were clearly defined as written in *The Code* and no interpretation was necessary.

Amendment Group 1

The following proposed amendments to *The Code* were submitted by Asheboro Lodge No. 699.

Amend Regulation 86-2 (32), to read as follows:

32. In addition to the power and authority contained in Chapter 58 of *The Code*, the Grand Master shall have the authority to direct the Judge Advocate to institute a Masonic Trial against any Master Mason within the Jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge whom he believes, after investigation, to have been or is a party to the promoting of a lottery, game of chance, or a raffle of any kind or character in the name or in the behalf of Masonry.

The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence hereby makes the following substitute amendment:

32. To conduct, promote, participate in, profit by, aid or assist, in the name or in behalf of Masonry, in any lottery, game of chance, door prize, or other device or activity by any name, whether or not permitted by public authority. This subdivision covers both individual brethren and Masonic bodies in this jurisdiction and the so called collateral bodies or other organizations in

North Carolina whose membership is dependent upon or related to Masonic membership or which are likely to be regarded as Masonic organizations in the public mind as well as individual Masons, within the Jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge, are enjoined and required to respect the purposes of this regulation. In addition to the power and authority contained in Chapter 58 of *The Code*, the Grand Master shall have the authority to direct the Judge Advocate to institute a Masonic Trial against any Master Mason within the Jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge whom he believes, after investigation, to have been or is a party to the promoting of a lottery or game of chance of any kind or character.

Reg. 43-3-12 The holding or sponsoring by a lodge of lotteries, game of chance, gambling, or any activities which would discredit masonry, for any purposes, is prohibited. A raffle may be held as follows:

1. Raffles shall be conducted with the conformity to North Carolina State Laws except that cash prizes shall not be permitted.
2. No raffle shall be conducted without prior written approval by the Committee (Commission) on Subordinate Lodge Special Activities.

The Committee recommended approval on the substitute amendment.

The Grand Lodge approved the substitute amendment.

Amendment Group 2

The following proposed amendments to *The Code* were submitted by Steele Creek Lodge No. 737.

The purpose of this amendment is to require the master of a lodge to turn away any visitor to his lodge if objected to by a member of the lodge.

Amend Regulation 50-5.7 to read as follows:

7. If the question of admission arises between a visiting Mason and a member, the Master SHALL regard the wishes of the member in preference to those of the visitor. (50-5.1; 59-2.7)

Steele Creek Lodge No. 737 has requested the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence that the following proposed amendment they have submitted be tabled until the next annual communication so that the Code Commission can study further.

Amendment Group 3

The following proposed amendments to *The Code* were submitted by Hominy Lodge No. 491 and Snow Lodge No. 363. Hominy Lodge has asked that their name be withdrawn from sponsorship.

This amendment would allow our Grand Lodge to negotiate and share our territorial jurisdiction with another grand lodge.

Amend Section 2-2 to read as follows:

SEC. 2-2 SOVEREIGNTY OF THE GRAND LODGE. The sovereignty of the

Grand Lodge touching upon all Masonic matters within, but not outside of, its territorial boundary is full and complete and any of its subordinate lodges has the right to receive the petition of any profane for the degrees or the application of any nonaffiliated Mason for affiliation who possess the physical, mental, moral and residential qualifications of the Grand Lodge. No other Grand Lodge shall have or exercise any rights within this territorial jurisdiction unless by compact (mutual consent) approved by this Grand Lodge.

The Committee recommended approval of the amendment.

The Grand Lodge rejected the amendment.

Amendment Group 4

The following proposed amendment to *The Code* was submitted by Bakersville Lodge No. 357.

Personnel salaries have always been available to delegates at Annual Communication. Out of concern for employee privacy, they have never been published. This amendment would require that they be published yearly.

Amend Regulation 34-5(4) to read as follows:

4. The proposed budget sent to the subordinate Lodges for review prior to annual communication of the Grand Lodge shall include a complete and definitive accounting of all salaries, benefits and expenditures for every employee of the Grand Lodge.

The Committee recommended rejection of the amendment.

The Grand Lodge rejected the amendment.

Amendment Group 5

The following proposed amendment to *The Code* was submitted by Walton Clapp, III, Grand Secretary, Chairman of Committee on By-laws.

This amendment would allow lodges which share jurisdiction to set their own initiation fees. Currently, all lodges in a shared jurisdiction must have the same initiation fee.

Amend Regulation 64-2 to read as follows:

2. Fees in a Concurrent Jurisdiction. Obsolete

The Committee recommended approval of the amendment.

The Grand Lodge approved the amendment.

Amendment Group 6

This change is to correct a section missed by last year's amendments which placed the OSW on sale.

Amend Regulation 86-2 (54) to read as follows:

54. Obsolete

Submitted by:

William L. Mills III, Junior Grand Warden

The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence hereby makes the following substitute amendment:

Reg. 86-2.54. No brother may have in his possession any copy of the Vocabulary after the same has been accounted for to the Grand Secretary as lost or destroyed.

The Committee recommended approval on the substitute amendment.

The Grand Lodge approved the substitute amendment.

Amendment Group 7

These amendments would alter the basic schedule of our Grand Lodge year. Annual Communication would open on the third Friday of September. The man elected Grand Master would become Grand Master Elect until installation in November or December at an exact date and place named by him. This would bring the Grand Master's term into alignment with blue lodge officers. It would further allow the incoming Grand Master to make the appointments needed after his election, not in anticipation of it. This schedule would allow our fiscal and calendar years to better match, making budgeting and spending easier to manage.

Amend Regulation 18-1 to read as follows:

REG. 18-1 ANNUAL COMMUNICATION. The annual communication of the Grand Lodge for the transaction of business shall be convened in a city in North Carolina selected at a preceding annual communication, at ten o'clock in the morning of the third Friday in September of each year unless otherwise ordered by a resolution adopted by a majority vote at the preceding annual communication, or as provided in *The Code*. [13-2.24].

1. If the Grand Master changes the date, hour, or place of the annual communication pursuant to Reg. 13-2.24, due notice of any change shall be mailed to each subordinate lodge and to each officer and member of the Grand Lodge at least thirty days before the day named for such annual communication. [13-2.24; 27-7.7].

2. All invitations for the Grand Lodge to hold its annual communication at any place other than Raleigh, North Carolina, shall be in writing, addressed to the Board of General Purposes, and filed with the Grand Secretary not later than January first and by him laid before the Board of General Purposes at its January meeting. The Board shall investigate the facilities as to meeting place, housing and other necessary accommodations and shall make a recommendation to the Grand Lodge at its next annual communication for its action. Any invitation not accepted shall not be carried over to be considered at a later annual communication.

Amend Regulation 12-7 to read as follows:

REG. 12-7 TIME OF INSTALLATION. The Grand Master-elect and all grand officers required to be installed shall be installed by the Grand Master, a Past Grand Master, or a Past Master at an emergent communi-

cation called for that purpose in the month of November or December or the earliest date possible thereafter either in the Grand Lodge or in a subordinate lodge within the state.

Amend Regulation 18-2 to read as follows:

REG. 18-2 EMERGENT COMMUNICATIONS. An emergent communication of the Grand Lodge shall be called under the following circumstances;

1. In the month of November or December for the purpose of installing officers at a location chosen by the grand master elect.
2. By Grand Master whenever, in his opinion, the welfare of Masonry shall require it, or
3. On written application therefor, signed by the Masters of not less than ten chartered lodges, setting forth the cause which demands it. [13-2.4].

Submitted by:

William L. Mills III, Junior Grand Warden

The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence respectfully submits the following substitute amendment:

REG. 18-1 ANNUAL COMMUNICATION. The annual communication of the Grand Lodge for the transaction of business shall be convened in a city in North Carolina selected at a preceding annual communication, at ten o'clock in the morning of the fourth Friday in September of each year unless otherwise ordered by a resolution adopted by a majority vote at the preceding annual communication, or as provided in *The Code*. [13-2.4].

REG. 12-7 TIME OF INSTALLATION. The Grand Master-elect and all grand officers required to be installed shall be installed by the Grand Master, a Past Grand Master, or a Past Master at an emergent communication called for that purpose the first Saturday in December or the earliest date possible thereafter either in the Grand Lodge or in a subordinate lodge within the state.

27-6 APPOINTMENTS BY THE GRAND MASTER. Within thirty days after the close of the communication at which he is elected, the Grand Master elect shall appoint those mandatory committee provided for in Regulation 27-1 which do not require confirmation by the Grand Lodge.

27-7 GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. All term of the boards, commissions, and committees shall end and begin with the installation of the Grand Lodge Officers.

The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence recommends that the effective date is immediate and the following resolution be adopted.

RESOLUTION RE — COMMUNICATION 2000

Whereas, the amendments to change the dates of the annual communication have been approved, and

Whereas, there is a need to adopt the 2001 Budget and other

business of the Grand Lodge need to be considered,

Now, Be it Resolved, that a communication of the Grand Lodge be held on the Saturday, September 16, 2000 at the Oasis Shrine Temple in Charlotte, and

Resolved further, the only business to be transacted at the communication shall be the Grand Orator's Report, Grand Master's Report, adoption of the 2001 Budget, receiving amendments to *The Code*, and the election of officers for 2001.

**Respectfully submitted,
Board of General Purposes**

*The Committee recommended approval of the substitute amendments.
The Grand Lodge approved the substitute amendments and the resolution.*

Amendment Group 8

The following would change the name of the group which oversees fund-raising by lodges.

Amend Chapter 32 and any references elsewhere in *The Code* to change the name of Committee on Subordinate Lodge Special Activities to Commission on Special Activities.

CHAPTER 32

Commission on Special Activities

REG. 32-1 MEMBERS. The Commission on Special Activities shall consist of three members to be nominated by the Board of General Purposes and elected by the Grand Lodge as follows. [27-1.3.P; 27-6; 27-7.8].

1. Each member of the committee shall be a Past Master of a subordinate lodge in this jurisdiction well versed in the law of this Grand Lodge and in the usages and customs of the Craft and shall be experienced in handling business matters pertaining to subordinate lodges.

2. At each annual communication the Board of General Purposes shall nominate one qualified brother to serve for three years. The Committee shall elect its chairman. In the event of a vacancy on the committee by death or for any other cause the Grand Master shall fill the vacancy by appointment for the unexpired term.

REG. 32-2 MEETINGS. The committee shall meet upon call of the Grand Master or Chairman and its business may be transacted by correspondence.

REG. 32-3 QUORUM. A quorum shall consist of two members.

REG. 32-4 DUTIES, POWERS, AND AUTHORITY. The duties, powers, and authority of the Commission on Special Activities shall be as follows.

1. To investigate any matter, subject or thing pertaining to fund raising activities by subordinate lodges. Such investigation may be made by one or more members of the committee, but the report shall be made by at least a majority of the committee.

2. To adopt from time to time such rules as may be necessary to govern fund raising activities as provided in Reg. 43-12.3.B.
3. To report to the Grand Master and to the Grand Lodge all the facts pertinent to any inquiry or investigation with recommendations as the committee may deem proper.
4. To consider and act upon all applications of lodges or brethren in connection with or relating to fund raising activities as provided in Reg. 43-12.3.B.
5. To call for and examine any record, book, or account of any subordinate lodge in this jurisdiction which may be the object of or within the scope of its investigation; to order and require the attendance of any Masonic witness, as may be necessary or advisable to the proper discharge of its duties. All the powers and authority set forth in this paragraph are to be exercised under the direction of the Grand Master.

Amend Regulation 43-12 (7) to read as follows:

7. A subordinate lodge desiring to conduct any fund-raising activity for its own benefit or any fund raising activity other than those specified in Regulation 43-12.3 or in a manner other than that specified in Regulations 43-12.1 and 43-12.2 shall first submit an application detailing the planned project and its purpose to the Commission on Special Activities and must receive its approval before actively undertaking the project. [32-4.3].

Amend Regulation 43-12 (9) to read as follows:

9. A subordinate lodge conducting any fund-raising activity shall file a financial report on the project within 60 days after completing the project with the Commission on Special Activities. The Lodge shall report the type of project, the purpose for which it was conducted, funds to be accounted for and distribution of profits.

Amend Regulation 85-3 (4) to read as follows:

4. A lodge or a brother in the name of Masonry shall not by circular letter or otherwise, solicit pecuniary assistance or donations of money or merchandise for any purpose, from any lodge or brother in this or in any other grand jurisdiction, nor from any non-Masons unless, that solicitation is on behalf of the North Carolina Masonic Foundation, Inc., the Masonic and Eastern Star Home of North Carolina, Incorporated, or the Masonic Home for Children at Oxford, or the solicitation has been approved in advance by the Commission on Special Activities.

Submitted by:

William L. Mills III, Junior Grand Warden

The Committee recommended approval of the amendments.

The Grand Lodge approved the amendments.

Amendment Group 9

These changes in the duties of The Code Commission would allow that Commission to help keep The Code in good working order by suggesting changes or modifications to the delegates.

Amend Regulation 33-2 to add a new subsection:

REG. 33-2 DUTIES, POWERS, AND AUTHORITY. The duties, powers, and authority of the Code Commission shall be as follows.

1. To scrutinize *The Code* and all amendments thereto and recommend to the Grand Lodge such changes to the form and substance of *The Code* as may make *The Code* more useful to the Craft and better promote the Ancient Landmarks, usages, and customs of Freemasonry.
2. To prepare and supervise the printing and distribution of all amendments to *The Code* made from time to time.
3. To perform such other duties as may be assigned to them from time to time by the Grand Lodge. They may transact their business by correspondence.

Submitted by:

William L. Mills III, Junior Grand Warden

The following substitute amendment has been submitted by the Code Commission: Amend Chapter 33 to read as follows:

Reg. 33-1 Members.

The Code Commission shall be composed of five members appointed by the Grand Master.

1. The Grand Master shall name the Chairman of said Commission.
2. At each annual communication of the Grand Lodge the Grand Master shall appoint one member to serve for five years.
3. Each member of the Commission shall be well informed in the law and usage of Masonry and of the Grand Jurisdiction in particular.

Reg. 33-2 Duties, Powers, and Authority to read:

The Duties, Powers and Authority of the Code Commission shall be as follows:

1. To receive copies of all proposed amendments to the *Code* as submitted within regulation and edit them for clarity and completeness before submission to the Grand Lodge for its action. The Commission shall consult with the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence as necessary to avoid duplication of effort and conflicts.
2. To assist members of the fraternity to properly propose amendments to the *Code* as may make the *Code* more useful and helpful to Freemasonry in North Carolina.
3. The Commission shall monitor the *Code* and propose such changes to form and substance as they may deem helpful to Freemasonry in North Carolina.
4. To prepare and supervise the printing and distribution of all amendments to the *Code*.
5. To perform such other duties as may be assigned to them by the Grand Lodge.

*The Committee recommended approval of the substitute amendments.
The Grand Lodge approved the substitute amendments.*

Amendment Group 10

The amendments in this group are intended to allow lodges to have fundraisers for their own benefit, not only for the benefit of charity.

Amend Regulation 77-1 to read as follows:

REG. 77-1 MINIMUM DUES. Each lodge shall fix in its by-laws and collect such annual dues as may be necessary to enable it to provide routine maintenance and repairs and discharge all of its duties, obligations and recurring operational expenses, according to the annual budget submitted by its Committee on Finance and Budget and adopted by the lodge. (61-3.2). The annual dues shall, in addition to being sufficient for these needs, further provide an amount adequate to establish and increase a Subordinate Lodge General Fund. Such General Fund to serve primarily as an aid toward meeting such extraordinary needs as may arise. Provided, that no such lodge shall fix such annual dues at less than twelve dollars. (5-2.2)

Amend Regulation 77-8 to read as follows:

REG. 77-8 NO OTHER LEVIES OR ASSESSMENTS. A lodge shall not levy or collect an assessment upon its members for any purpose. Funds to purchase real estate, to build or repair a lodge hall, to furnish a lodge room, or to pay debts incurred in any such undertakings may be contributed voluntarily or collected as dues, in accordance with Regulation 77-1 (as amended). Additionally, such funds may be supplemented by fund raising activities, either private or public, providing those endeavors are in conformity with Regulation 43-12.3 A.B.C. (D. added) and in conformity with applicable Federal, State, and local tax codes and operating standards. (43-3.17; 85-1)

Amend Regulation 43-12.3 Adding sub-section D.

D. As participation in any such activity in which the participant receives any product, service, or entertainment is **NON-TAX DEDUCTIBLE** for the recipient, a notation to that effect must appear on all announcements, advertisements, publications, tickets, and signs. The intended beneficial purpose of each activity must be clearly stated thereon. This sub-section (D) applies to fund raising activities for a lodge's own benefit as well as for Masonic charity. (43-12.7)

Submitted by:

Harold Edwards, Master
Steele Creek Lodge No. 737

Steele Creek Lodge No. 737 has requested these proposed amendments they have submitted be tabled until the next annual communication so that the Code Commission can study further.

Amendment Group 11

This amendment would do away with the per capita exemption for 50-year members. The Committee on Finance has decided to withdraw this amendment at Annual Communication 2000.

Amend Regulation 20-1 to read as follows:

REG. 20-1. ESTABLISHED. Each lodge, including lodges under dispensation, shall pay annually to the Grand Secretary, for the use of the Grand Lodge, the sums hereinafter specified.

1. The sum of ten dollars for each member of the lodge at low twelve December thirty-first.

Submitted by:
Committee on Finance

The Committee on Finance respectfully withdraws the following amendment for consideration.

The Committee withdraws the amendment for consideration.

Amendment Group 12

These amendments would change the way we currently set per capita. We currently pick a figure and adopt it. The proposed method would have us adopt a budget and then divide its total by the number of Masons in our jurisdiction. That figure would be per capita for that fiscal year.

Amend Regulation 20-1 to read as follows:

REG. 20-1. HOW ESTABLISHED. Each lodge, including lodges under dispensation, shall pay annually to the Grand Secretary, for the use of the Grand Lodge, the sums hereinafter specified.

1. The amount established by the Grand Lodge as the per capita tax for the current year at the annual communication held the preceding calendar year for each member of the lodge at low twelve on December thirty-first. A lodge shall be exempt from the payment of the annual assessment to the Grand Lodge for any member who has received either the Fifty-Year or Sixty-Year Service Award. [5-1.1; 20-1; 81-1; 81-7].

Amend Regulation 34-5.3 to read as follows:

3. Obsolete

Submitted by:
Committee on Finance

*The Committee recommended approval of the amendment
The Grand Lodge rejected the amendment.*

Amendment Group 13

This amendment would raise per capita from \$10 to \$12. It would not change the budget process.

Amend Regulation 20-1 to read as follows:

REG. 20-1. ESTABLISHED. Each lodge, including lodges under dispensation, shall pay annually to the Grand Secretary, for the use of the Grand Lodge, the sums hereinafter specified.

1. The sum of twelve dollars for each member of the lodge at low twelve on December thirty-first. A lodge shall be exempt from the payment of the annual assessment to the Grand Lodge for any member who has received

nominating committee and from the floor (Regulation 27-1 .3R) a Grand Master, a Deputy Grand Master, a Senior Grand Warden, a Junior Grand Warden, a Grand Treasurer, a Grand Secretary, a Senior Grand Deacon, a Junior Grand Deacon, a Grand Marshal, a Senior Grand Steward, and a Junior Grand Steward by written ballot. [11-5.2; 11-5.3; Chapter 19; 27-1.3R; 34-23]).

Amend Regulation 27-1.3 by adding:

R. Grand Lodge Officers Nominating Committee (34-28)

Amend Chapter 34 by adding:

REG. 34-23 Officers Nominating Committee. The Grand Master shall appoint a Grand Lodge Officers Nominating Committee of three members, one member to serve for three years, one member to serve for two years and one member to serve for one year. The Grand Master shall appoint one member in each ensuing year to replace the third year member as his term expires. The third year member will serve as chairman. It shall be the duty of this committee to place in nomination one person for each elective office in Regulation 11 - 1.1 of *The Code*. The presiding officer shall call for further nominations from the floor of the Grand Lodge three times with a pause after each. If he hears no further nominations, he will declare the nomination for the office closed. If there are more than two nominations for any office and the office is not filled on the first ballot, only the two receiving the most votes on the first ballot may proceed in the balloting. No vote is to be reported for a person not nominated. (Regulation 12-2)

Submitted by:

James B. McLaughlin, Senior Warden
Mint Hill Lodge No. 742

The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence found that the Amendment Group 14 conflicted with three following provisions in The Code.

REG. 86-2

14. *To solicit votes by any means, direct or indirect, to promote the election of one's self or of anyone else, to office in his lodge or in the Grand Lodge in violation of Regulations 86-2.16, 54-3.3.B.*

15. *To try to influence the vote of another, either favorably or unfavorably, for any person for any Masonic office. However, one may state if asked whether, in his opinion or judgment, a particular person is well qualified by good character, ability, or Masonic knowledge to discharge the duties of a particular office. [86-2.16; 54-3.3.B].*

16. *Electioneering in any way for one's self, or for anyone else, for office in the Grand Lodge is prohibited as unmasonic, and any brother found guilty of the offense shall be ineligible to office for two years, or if in office shall forfeit the office held by him and in addition thereto, he may be punished for unmasonic conduct. [54-3.3.B; 86-2.14; 18-2.15]. In order to avoid a conflict with these provisions, Brother James B. McLaughlin proposed the following amendment which will be voted on separately. The Grand Master ruled that the proposed additional amendments Out of Order. Therefore, no vote was allowed on amendment set 14.*

Amendment Group 15

This amendment would allow lodges to set their dues at a certain level plus whatever Grand Lodge per capita is at the time. Currently dues are set

at a flat rate. This would allow lodges to maintain the same income level regardless of Grand Lodge per capita rate.

Amend Chapter 44-7, Article 10, Section 1 to read as follows:

Section 1. The annual membership dues in this lodge shall be _____ dollars (\$) _____ plus Grand Lodge per capita tax as specified in regulation 20-1.1 of *The Code* which each member shall pay in advance on or before the first day of January each year.

Note: An amendment to Section 1 of this article shall not become effective until January first next following the date it is approved by the committee on by-laws of subordinate lodges: (77-2; 7-3).

Submitted by:
James B. McLaughlin, Senior Warden
Mint Hill Lodge No. 742

*The Committee recommended approval of the amendment.
The Grand Lodge approved the amendment.*

Amendment Group 16

These amendments would allow North Carolina Masons to simultaneously belong to two lodges in the state. Currently you may join a second in-state lodge only if you are a chartering member of a new lodge.

Amend Regulation 52-5 to read as follows:

REG. 52-5 DUAL MEMBERS. Except on the formation of a new lodge, no lodge shall admit to membership any brother who is already a member of two lodges in this Grand Jurisdiction, but may accept his application for affiliation pursuant to Chapter 75. A member of a lodge in another Grand Jurisdiction, which does not forbid dual membership, may affiliate with a lodge in North Carolina without having to relinquish his membership.

Amend Regulation 75-17 to read as follows:

REG. 75-17 DUAL MEMBERSHIP. Except on the formation of a new lodge, no lodge shall admit to membership any brother who is already a member of two lodges in this Grand Jurisdiction.

Amend Regulation 86-2.49 to read as follows:

49. For a member of this Grand Jurisdiction to hold active, or regular membership in more than two lodges at the same time in violation of Regulations 52.5 or 17.17 (81-1).

Submitted by:
John Huske Anderson Lodge No. 731

The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence respectfully submits the following substitute amendment for consideration.

REG. 52-5 PLURAL MEMBERS. A member of a lodge in another Grand Jurisdiction, which does not forbid plural membership, may affiliate with a lodge in North Carolina without having to relinquish his membership pursuant to Chapter 75.

Amend Regulation 86-2.49 to read as follows:

49. Obsolete

REG. 39-2.2

2. OBSOLETE

The Committee recommended approval of the substitute amendments.

The Grand Lodge approved the substitute amendments.

Respectfully submitted,
Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence
Charles E. Cathey, Deputy Grand Master
William L. Mills, Senior Grand Warden
William G. Mathis, Junior Grand
Howard M. Overcash, PM
Edwin L. Becton, PM
Thomas E. McGee, Jr., PM
Robins S. McCombs, PM
Dewey R. Preslar, Jr., PM
Charles H. White, PM
James G. Moore, PM
Richard G. Moore, PGM, Chairman
Michael G. Whitfield, PM
Jimmie B. Hicks, Jr., PM
Robert C. Kraus, PM

Report of the Committee on Credentials

(Docket No. 48)

The Committee on Credentials presented the following report, which was read, received and entered on the record:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

The Committee on Credentials herewith submits its final report for the 213th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge:

Representatives from 345 Chartered Lodges Present	1,002
Grand Lodge Officers Present (Elective and Appointive)	16
Past Grand Masters Present (not counting Grand	
Treasurer Clifton W. Everett, PGM)	15
Members of Boards, Boards of Directors, Commissions, and	
Committees Present (not otherwise listed)	43
District Deputy Grand Masters Present	49
District Deputy Grand Lecturers Present	37
Total Present	1,162

Respectfully submitted,
Norman C. Miller, Chairman

**Resolution
To Reprint the OSW**

(Docket No. 49)

WHEREAS, the current supply of OSWs are exhausted and need to be reprinted, and

WHEREAS, the current revisions were not completed in time to be mailed out prior to Grand Lodge this year.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the OSW be reprinted, including the separate supplement, into a soft bound temporary book, which will include the floor work written in English in all sections throughout the book except the several secret sections in the Master Mason's Degree that divulge the secrets of the degree.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that when the final revision is approved by the delegates of Grand Lodge, that the book be printed in its final state with permalife paper and a hard back cover to match the current book in use today.

Respectfully submitted,
Board of Custodians

The Grand Lodge approved the Resolution.

Report of the Committee on Charters and Dispensations

(Docket No. 50)

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

The Committee on Charters and Dispensations met via teleconference on April 19, 2000, and considered the Petition for a Duplicate Charter of Grifton Lodge No. 243, A.F. & A.M. The committee recommends that the Grand Lodge issue a duplicate charter to Grifton Lodge No. 243 and that the fee for such a charter be waived. (Make Motion)

The Committee next considered the request of Mint Hill Lodge No. 742 to enter into the concurrent jurisdiction of other lodges in Mecklenburg County. The Grand Secretary mailed to all the lodges involved in the concurrent jurisdiction a copy of the petition asking for their consideration. All lodges except one in Mecklenburg County have considered and approved the request. The remaining lodge has not responded at all. Therefore, the committee recommends that Mint Hill Lodge No. 742 be approved to enter into concurrent jurisdiction of Mecklenburg County.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael A. Norris, Chairman
Bryan G. Farley
Charles T. Wheeler, III
William D. Sumpter, III
J. Randall McWaters

Adoption of the Report on Fraternal Correspondence

(Docket No. 51)

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

The Grand Secretary moved the adoption of the Grand Lodge of Russia. Motion was approved.

The Grand Secretary moved the edict of July 9, 1963 by Most Worshipful Edward Burrier be withdrawn and that we restore recognition of the Grand lodge of Cuba. Motion was approved.

(Note: See Docket No. 8, page 50 of these *Proceedings*)

Election of Grand Lodge Officers

(Docket No. 52)

The Grand Master announced that the time for the elections of officers of the Grand Lodge has arrived. He appointed as tellers the District Deputy Grand Masters.

The election resulted as follows:

Grand Master	Charles Edward Cathey Canton (472)
Deputy Grand Master	William Lee Mills, III Concord (32)
Senior Grand Warden	William Graham Mathis Rocky Point (138)
Junior Grand Warden	Jerry Reginald Tillett Manteo (521)
Grand Treasurer	Clifton White Everett, Jr. Greenville (708)
Grand Secretary	T. Walton Clapp, III Raleigh (237)

Presentation of Joseph Montfort Medal

Joseph Montfort Medals were presented by Grand Master Charles M. Ingram to the following members for meritorious service:

Walter J. Klein, Excelsior Lodge No. 261
John S. Miller, Jr., Joppa Lodge No. 530
James G. Martin, Phalanx Lodge No. 31

Final Report of the Board of General Purposes

(Docket No. 53)

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

The Board of General Purposes has held regular meetings pursuant to the provisions of *The Code*, such meetings having been held on June 25, 1999; August 27, 1999; October 9, 1999; January 14, 2000; March 11, 2000; and April 27, 2000.

The June, October, January and March meetings were held in the Grand Lodge Executive Office Building, Raleigh, North Carolina, and the April meeting was held in the Sheraton Capital Center Hotel, Raleigh, North Carolina. The August meeting was held at the Masonic and Eastern Star Home, Greensboro, North Carolina.

At each meeting of the Board, reports were made by the Grand Master, the Grand Treasurer, the Grand Secretary, the Chairman of the Finance Committee, the President of the North Carolina Masonic Foundation, Inc., and by other members of the Board of General Purposes relative to the various activities of the Grand Lodge.

At the meeting on April 27, 2000, action was taken relative to the distribution of the Report of the Grand Master, the several sections of the same being referred to the appropriate Board, Committee or Commission.

**Election Of Members Of The Board Of Directors
Of The Masonic Home For Children At Oxford, Inc.**

Pursuant to the provisions of Regulations 27-4, the Board nominates the following members of the Boards of Directors of the Masonic Home for Children at Oxford, Inc., with terms expiring as shown:

2003 - James M. Galloway, Jr. (708) Crown Point

2003 - Joseph K. Transou (40) Hiram

2003 - Dennis K. Mikeal (262) Hibriten

Jerry R. Tillett, Junior Grand Warden-elect as an observer

The nominations were unanimously confirmed by the Grand Lodge.

**Election Of Members Of The Board Of Directors
Of The Masonic And Eastern Star Home
Of North Carolina, Inc.**

Pursuant to the provisions of Regulations 27-4.1, the Board nominates the following members of the Board of Directors of the Masonic and Eastern Star Home of North Carolina, Inc., with terms expiring as shown:

2003 - Ralph V. Shipton (1) St. John's

2003 - W. Frank Woods (314) New Lebanon

2003 - Charles S. Freel (529) Andrews

2001 - Edward E. Wells (98) Hiram

Jerry R. Tillett, Junior Grand Warden-elect as an observer

The nominations were unanimously confirmed by the Grand Lodge.

Board Of General Purposes

The Grand Master nominates Ray Norris, PGM (259) (Waynesville) and Douglas S. Moore PM (244) (Monroe) as members of the Board of General Purposes for terms of three (3) years expiring in 2003.

The nominations were unanimously confirmed by the Grand Lodge.

**Representative To The
George Washington Masonic
National Memorial Association**

The Grand Master-elect nominates L. R. Thomas, Jr., PGM (568) (Doric) as Representative to the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association.

The nomination was unanimously confirmed by the Grand Lodge.

**Representative To
The Masonic Service Association**

The Grand Master-elect nominates David L. Hargett, PM (244) (Monroe) as Representative to the Masonic Service Association.

The nomination was unanimously confirmed by the Grand Lodge.

**Election Of Member Of The Board of Directors
Of The North Carolina Masonic Foundation, Inc.**

Pursuant to the provisions of Regulation 35-1.1, the Grand Master-elect nominates Charles E. Scott (289) (Salem) as a member of the Board of Directors of the North Carolina Masonic Foundation, Inc. for a term of five (5) years, expiring 2005. The Grand Master-elect nominates John N. Belk (694) (Gate City) as a member of the Board of Directors of the North Carolina Masonic Foundation, Inc. for an unexpired term, expiring 2003.

The nomination was unanimously confirmed by the Grand Lodge.

**Election Of Trustees Of
The Drewry Memorial Grand Secretary's Fund**

Pursuant to the provisions of the Trust, the Grand Master-elect nominates James G. Lassiter (735) (James B. Green) and Cameron E. Shearon (40) (Hiram) as Trustees of the Drewry Memorial Grand Secretary's Fund.

The nomination was unanimously confirmed by the Grand Lodge.

Board Of Custodians

The Grand Master-elect appoints J. Luigi Ammons, CL (97) (Millbrook) and H. Michael Overcash, CL (259) (Waynesville) as members of the Board of Custodians for terms three (3) years expiring in 2003. The Grand Master-elect appoints C. Richard Patton, PM (663) (Black Mountain) and John W. Johnston, III, CL (708) (Crown Point) as members of the Board of Custodians for unexpired terms expiring in 2001.

The nomination was unanimously confirmed by the Grand Lodge.

Committee On Appeals

The Grand Master-elect nominates Thomas D. Haigwood, PM (284) (Greenville) as a member of the Committee on Appeals for a term of five (5) years, expiring in 2005.

The nomination was unanimously confirmed by the Grand Lodge.

Committee On Masonic Education

Pursuant to the provisions of Regulations 30-1, as amended April 1998, the Grand Master-elect appoints the following members of the Committee on Masonic Education, with terms expiring as shown:

- 2003 - Hugh K. Terrell, Jr. (472) Sonoma
- 2003 - James M. Earnhardt (543) Spencer
- 2003 - John W. Allen (40) Hiram

Committee On Subordinate Lodge Special Activities

Pursuant to the provisions of Regulation 32-1, the Board nominates the following members of the Committee on Subordinate Lodge Special Activities, with terms expiring as shown:

- 2003 M. Gene Lewellyn (129) Dan River

The nomination was unanimously confirmed by the Grand Lodge.

**Election Of Members Of The
Committee On Masonic Jurisprudence**

Pursuant to the provisions of Regulation 34-1, the Grand Master-elect nominates the following members of the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence for terms expiring as shown:

- 2003 - Dewey L. Keller, PM (262) Lenoir
- 2003 - Gerry T. Smith, PGM (741) Crissie Wright
- 2003 - Thomas W. Gregory, PGM (27) Statesville
- 2003 - William H. Simpson, PGM (428) Stokesdale

The nomination was unanimously confirmed by the Grand Lodge.

Election Of Members Of The Committee On Finance

Pursuant to the provisions of Regulation 34-3, the Grand Master-elect nominates the following members of the Committee on Finance for terms expiring as shown:

2003 - R. Glenn Capps (679) Creasy Proctor
 2003 - Eugene W. Vosecky (358) East LaPort
 2003 - G. Glenn Adams (515) Whetstone
 2001 - Thomas W. Gregory (27) Statesville

The nomination was unanimously confirmed by the Grand Lodge.

Officers Appointed By The Grand Master-Elect

Charles A. Lewis, Jr., (1) Senior Grand Warden
 Leonard Y. Safrin, Jr. (109) Junior Grand Warden
 Graham W. Pervier, (707) Grand Marshal
 Gene T. Jernigan, (206) Grand Steward
 W. Berry Rigdon (472) Grand Steward
 Hugh K. Terrell (472) Grand Tyler
 Larry M. Melton (170) Grand Chaplain
 Clarence E. Horton, Jr. (695) Grand Historian
 Danial M. Hogue, Jr., (576) Grand Lecturer
 Forrest F. Ball (293) Grand Orator

The Board Of Publication Of The North Carolina Mason

On nomination, duly seconded, Donald E. Bolden (409) (Bula) was elected by the Board of General Purposes as a member of the Board of Publication for a term of five (5) years, expiring in 2005.

District Deputy Grand Masters

The Grand Master-elect appoints sixty-five (65) District Deputy Grand Masters to serve the 65 Masonic Districts of North Carolina for the Masonic year 2000.

(Note: For a list of District Deputy Grand Masters, see Page 18 of these *Proceedings*.)

A Tribute to Charles M. Ingram Grand Master 1999-2000

Isaiah 56, 1 & 2

Our Grand Master, M. W. Charles M. Ingram comes to us from strong stock of Duplin County. Adopted by his parents, Paul and Thelma Ingram in 1948 he was reared, nurtured and educated in the tradition of a loving family of rural southern America. As a result of this influence on his life he has often said, "I know that I was wanted." The effect of this simple statement and the evidence of his upbringing are repeatedly demonstrated by his insatiable appetite for improvement and knowledge and his inherent instinct for distinguishing right and wrong.

To borrow a statement from Rod Stiger, "We are at our best when intellect and instinct come together." This has been repeatedly attested to when his enormous intellectual capacity combined with his basic instincts for fairness, justness and right have guided this Grand Lodge through perilous times. He has not allowed himself to be drawn into gutter quarrels and picks as so many have. He has practiced what he stated in his remarks to the delegates after his election at the 1999 Annual Communication.

"We must restore Morality in Masonry!"

"We must practice Masonry!"

"We must remember that we have promises to keep."

"We must learn to subdue our passions."

These and more he has tried to do and we are the better for it. For those of us that love and respect him, and there are many, we want him to continue to know "that he is wanted."

May the Great Architect of the Universe continue to richly bless you, Grand Master.

Respectively submitted,
Board of General Purposes

Labor Dispensed With

The Deputy Grand Master announced that the installation of the Grand Lodge officers would be held at 2:30 P.M. on Saturday, April 29, 2000 in the Raleigh Masonic Temple, Raleigh, North Carolina by Grand Master Charles M. Ingram.

Open Installation Of Officers

The Grand Lodge was called to order at 2:30 P.M. on Saturday, April 29, 2000 in the Raleigh Masonic Temple, Raleigh, North Carolina by Grand Master Charles M. Ingram.

The following officers were duly installed in a ceremony of open installation by Brother James D. Rogers, Installing Officer, assisted by Brother Cohan S. Matthews, Installing Marshal. Brother Dallas Davis was the Installing Chaplain, and Brother D. Windell Cunningham was Music Director.

Grand Master	Charles Edward Cathey Canton (472)
Deputy Grand Master	William Lee Mills, III Concord (32)
Senior Grand Warden	William Graham Mathis Rocky Point (138)
Junior Grand Warden	Jerry Reginald Tillett Manteo (521)
Grand Treasurer	Clifton White Everett, Jr., PGM Greenville (708)
Grand Secretary	T. Walton Clapp, III Raleigh (237)
Senior Grand Deacon	Charles Albert Lewis, Jr. Wilmington (1)
Junior Grand Deacon	Leonard Yearby Safrit, Jr. Beaufort (109)
Grand Marshal	Graham Wiles Pervier Winston-Salem (707)

Grand Steward	Gene Tart Jernigan Dunn (206)
Grand Steward	Wallace Berry Rigdon Waynesville (472)
Grand Tyler	Hugh Kilpatrick Terrell, Jr. Canton (472)
Grand Chaplain	Larry Marvin Melton Claremont (170)

Presentation of Grand Master's Apron

A Grand Master's Apron was presented to Grand Master Charles Edward Cathey by Past Grand Master Ray Norris.

Past Grand Master's Jewel Presented

A Past Grand Master's Jewel was presented to Past Grand Master Charles M. Ingram by Past Grand Master William H. Simpson.

Presentation of Grand Master's Fez

A fez was presented to Grand Master Charles E. Cathey by Brother Alan W. Madsen, Potentate of Oasis Temple.

Second Day-Afternoon Session

Labor was resumed in the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge at 4:00 P.M. on Saturday, April 29, 2000 in the Raleigh Masonic Temple, Raleigh, North Carolina.

Grand Lodge Closed In Ample Form

There being no further business to come before the Grand Lodge, the minutes were read and approved and the Grand Lodge was closed in ample form.

Charles E. Cathey

Grand Master

Attest:

I certify that the foregoing *Proceedings* are a true and correct record of the official transactions of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina, at the communication held on April 28-29, 2000, and that they were prepared by me from the detailed minutes of that communication, and were published under my supervision.

J. Walter Clapp

Grand Secretary

Appendix

Contents of Appendix

Grand Officers (1787-2000)	254
Grand Lodges, and Grand Representatives (United States and Other)	260
Lodges Under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina	267
Duplicate Charter of Grifton Lodge No. 243	281
Abstract of Returns (Lodges Listed numerically)	283

Grand Officers (Elective) Of North Carolina From Organization In 1787 To 2000

Grand Master	Deputy Grand Master	Senior Grand Warden	Junior Grand Warden	Grand Treasurer	Grand Secretary
1787 Samuel Johnston	Richard Caswell	Richard Ellis	Michael Payne	Abner Neale	James Glasgow
1788 Richard Caswell	Michael Payne	James Glasgow	Silas White Arnett	Stephen Cabarrus	William J. Dawson
1789 Samuel Johnston	James Glasgow	Silas White Arnett	Lunsford Long	Stephen Cabarrus	William J. Dawson
1790 Samuel Johnston	James Glasgow	Stephen Cabarrus	Isaac Guion	Frederick Hargett	Matthias Handy
1791 Samuel Johnston	James Glasgow	Stephen Cabarrus	Lunsford Long	Frederick Hargett	Matthias Handy
1792 Wm. Richardson Davie	James Glasgow	Lunsford Long	John Macon	Frederick Hargett	James Ellis
1793 Wm. Richardson Davie	James Glasgow	John Macon	John Lous Taylor	Frederick Hargett	Richard W. Freear
1794 Wm. Richardson Davie	James Glasgow	John Louis Taylor	John Ingles	Walter Alvis	Richard W. Freear
1795 Wm. Richardson Davie	James Glasgow	John Louis Taylor	Henry Hill	John Macon	Robert Williams
1796 Wm. Richardson Davie	James Glasgow	John Louis Taylor	Montfort Stokes	Richard W. Freear	Robert Williams
1797 Wm. Richardson Davie	James Glasgow	John Louis Taylor	Montfort Stokes	Richard W. Freear	Robert Williams
1798 Wm. Richardson Davie	John Haywood	Montfort Stokes	David Caldwell	Henry Potter	Robert Williams
1799 William Polk	John Louis Taylor	Montfort Stokes	Waightstill Avery	Henry Potter	Robert Williams
1800 William Polk	John Louis Taylor	Montfort Stokes	John Winslow	William Boylan	Robert Williams
1801 William Polk	John Louis Taylor	Montfort Stokes	William Duffy	William Boylan	Robert Williams
1802 John Louis Taylor	Montfort Stokes	John Hall	Nathaniel Alexander	William Boylan	Robert Williams
1803 John Louis Taylor	Montfort Stokes	John Hall	William Duffy	William Boylan	Robert Williams
1804 John Louis Taylor	Montfort Stokes	John Hall	Robert Cochran	William Boylan	Robert Williams
1805 John Hall	Montfort Stokes	Robert Cochran	William Duffy	William Boylan	Robert Williams
1806 John Hall	Montfort Stokes	Robert Cochran	William Duffy	William Boylan	Robert Williams
1807 John Hall	Montfort Stokes	Benjamin Smith	Geo. Lee Davidson	William Boylan	Robert Williams
1808 Benjamin Smith	Robert Williams	Geo. Lee Davidson	Andrew Caldwell	William Boylan	Thomas L. Williams
1809 Benjamin Smith	Robert Williams	Montfort Stokes	Calvin Jones	William Boylan	Thomas L. Williams
1810 Benjamin Smith	Robert Williams	Calvin Jones	Calvin Jones	William Boylan	Thomas L. Williams
1811 Robert Williams	Jeremiah Slade	Calvin Jones	William Miller	William Boylan	Alexander Lucas
1812 Robert Williams	Jeremiah Slade	Calvin Jones	William Miller	William Boylan	Alexander Lucas
1813 Robert Williams	Jeremiah Slade	Calvin Jones	William Miller	William Boylan	Alexander Lucas
1814 John Louis Taylor	Jeremiah Slade	Calvin Jones	William Miller	William Boylan	Alexander Lucas
1815 John Louis Taylor	Jeremiah Slade	Calvin Jones	William Miller	William Boylan	Alexander Lucas
1816 John Louis Taylor	Kemp Plummer	Calvin Jones	William Miller	William Boylan	Alexander Lucas
1817 Calvin Jones	John Winslow	James Iredell	Simmons J. Baker	William Boylan	Alexander Lucas
1818 Calvin Jones	John Winslow	Louis Dicken Wilson	Leonard Henderson	William Boylan	Alexander Lucas
1819 Calvin Jones	James Iredell	Louis Dicken Wilson	Leonard Henderson	William Boylan	Alexander Lucas
1820 John Adams Cameron	Frederick Nash	Louis Dicken Wilson	John C. Ehringhaus	William Boylan	Bazaleel Gillett
1821 John Adams Cameron	James Iredell	Jas. Strudwick Smith	Joseph H. Bryan	William Boylan	Benj. A. Barham
1822 James Strudwick Smith	James Iredell	Joseph H. Bryan	Richard D. Spaight	William Boylan	Alex. J. Lawrence
1823 Robert Strange	Francis Lister Hawks	Thomas Clancy	Bazaleel Gillett	William Boylan	Alex. J. Lawrence
1824 Robert Strange	Francis Lister Hawks	Thomas A. Pasteur	Bazaleel Gillett	Benjamin A. Barham	

Grand Officers (Elective) Of North Carolina From Organization In 1787 To 2000

Grand Master	Deputy Grand Master	Senior Grand Warden	Junior Grand Warden	Grand Treasurer	Grand Secretary
1825 Hutchins Gordon Burton	Francis Lister Hawks	George E. Spruill	Louis Dicken Wilson	Benjamin A. Barham	Alex. J. Lawrence
1826 Hutchins Gordon Burton	Francis Lister Hawks	George E. Spruill	Louis Dicken Wilson	Benjamin A. Barham	Alex. J. Lawrence
1827 Louis Dicken Wilson	John E. Lewis	George E. Spruill	Jesse Speight	Benjamin A. Barham	Alex. J. Lawrence
1828 Louis Dicken Wilson	John Owen	James Grant	Samuel F. Patterson	Benjamin A. Barham	John C. Stedman
1829 Louis Dicken Wilson	John Owen	James Grant	Samuel F. Patterson	Benjamin A. Barham	John C. Stedman
1830 Richard Dobbs Spaight	Samuel F. Patterson	George Blair	John Hill Wheeler	Benjamin A. Barham	John C. Stedman
1831 Richard Dobbs Spaight	Samuel F. Patterson	Rufus Haywood	Daniel Coleman	Benjamin A. Barham	Charles D. Lehman
1832 Simmons Jones Baker	William Davidson	Gray Little	John G. Marshall	Dirk Lindeman	Thomas J. Lemay
1833 Samuel F. Patterson	David W. Stone	Daniel Coleman	Edmund B. Freeman	Dirk Lindeman	John J. Christopher
1834 Samuel F. Patterson	David W. Stone	Daniel Coleman	John G. Marshall	Dirk Lindeman	John J. Christopher
1835 Lewis H. Marsteller	David W. Stone	Daniel Coleman	Edmund B. Freeman	Green W. Ligon	John J. Christopher
1836 Lewis H. Marsteller	David W. Stone	Henry Blount	James Maclin	Green W. Ligon	William T. Bain
1837 David W. Stone	Thomas L. B. Gregory	William W. Cherry	William B. Dunn	Cel. W. D. Hutchings	William T. Bain
1838 David W. Stone	Kenneth Raynor	William W. Cherry	Duncan G. McRaie	Cel. W. D. Hutchings	William T. Bain
1839 David W. Stone	William B. Dunn	John G. Marshall	Daniel S. Crenshaw	Cel. W. D. Hutchings	William T. Bain
1840 Simmons Jones Baker	William S. Baker	Daniel S. Crenshaw	Kader Biggs	Cel. W. D. Hutchings	William A. Harrison
1841 Daniel S. Crenshaw	Thomas Loring	Thomas E. Pender	Davis Young	Cel. W. D. Hutchings	William A. Harrison
1842 John Hill Wheeler	Jonathan H. Jacobs	Thomas E. Pender	Davis Young	Cel. W. D. Hutchings	William A. Harrison
1843 John Hill Wheeler	David Lowery Swain	Thomas E. Pender	William P. Taylor	Cel. W. D. Hutchings	William A. Harrison
1844 Phineas W. Fanning	David W. Stone	Phineas W. Fanning	Arthur S. Mooring	Cel. W. D. Hutchings	William T. Bain
1845 Phineas W. Fanning	Thomas Loring	Thomas S. Clark	Talcott Burr	Cel. W. D. Hutchings	William T. Bain
1846 Phineas W. Fanning	William Gott	Wiley W. Johnson	Peter Adams	Cel. W. D. Hutchings	William T. Bain
1847 William F. Collins	Clement H. Jordan	John H. Drake	William H. Mead	Cel. W. D. Hutchings	William T. Bain
1848 William F. Collins	Clement H. Jordan	Talcott Burr	Joab Hiatt	Cel. W. D. Hutchings	William T. Bain
1849 William F. Collins	Clement H. Jordan	John H. Drakes	Joab Hiatt	Cel. W. D. Hutchings	William T. Bain
1850 Alonzo T. Jerkins	Cyrus P. Mendenhall	William G. Hill	John A. Rowland	Cel. W. D. Hutchings	William T. Bain
1851 Alonzo T. Jerkins	Cyrus P. Mendenhall	Luke Blackmer	James E. Allen	Cel. W. D. Hutchings	William T. Bain
1852 Alonzo T. Jerkins	Cyrus P. Mendenhall	Luke Blackmer	William F. Taylor	Cel. W. D. Hutchings	William T. Bain
1853 Clement H. Jordan	William P. Taylor	Peter Adams	James H. Moore	Cel. W. D. Hutchings	William T. Bain
1854 Clement H. Jordan	William P. Taylor	William K. Blake	Joseph Green	Cel. W. D. Hutchings	William T. Bain
1855 Pleasant A. Holt	William P. Taylor	William K. Blake	Joseph Green	Cel. W. D. Hutchings	William T. Bain
1856 Pleasant A. Holt	Alfred Martin	James T. Alexander	Joseph M. Cox	Cel. W. D. Hutchings	William T. Bain
1857 Alfred Martin	Lewis S. Williams	James T. Alexander	Joseph M. Cox	Cel. W. D. Hutchings	William T. Bain
1858 Alfred Martin	Lewis S. Williams	Henry C. Lucas	Daniel Coleman	Cel. W. D. Hutchings	William T. Bain
1859 Lewis S. Williams	Eli W. Ward	Henry C. Lucas	Eli F. Watson	Cel. W. D. Hutchings	William T. Bain
1860 Lewis S. Williams	Eli W. Ward	James E. Allen	Charles C. Clark	Cel. W. D. Hutchings	William T. Bain
1861 William G. Hill	Eli Watson	Daniel Coleman	Rufus K. Speed	Cel. W. D. Hutchings	William T. Bain
1862 Eli F. Watson	Edwin Godwin Reade	John McCormick	Rufus K. Speed	Cel. W. D. Hutchings	William T. Bain

Grand Officers (Elective) Of North Carolina From Organization In 1787 To 2000

Grand Master	Deputy Grand Master	Senior Grand Warden	Junior Grand Warden	Grand Treasurer	Grand Secretary
1863 Eli F. Watson	Edwn Godwin Reade	John McCormick	Robert W. Best	Cel. W. D. Hutchings	William T. Bain
1864 John McCormick	Eugene Grissom	Robert W. Best	David H. Stephenson	Cel. W. D. Hutchings	William T. Bain
1865 Edwin Godwin Reade	John M. Happoldt	Robert W. Best	John Nichols	Cel. W. D. Hutchings	William T. Bain
1866 Edwin Godwin Reade	Robert W. Best	William Lander	John Nichols	Cel. W. D. Hutchings	William T. Bain
1867 Robert W. Best	James G. Ramsey	Robert B. Vance	Thomas M. Gardner	Cel. W. D. Hutchings	Donald W. Bain
1868 Robert B. Vance	Ellis Malone	Joseph B. Batchelor	Samuel H. Rountree	William E. Anderson	Donald W. Bain
1869 Robert B. Vance	Ellis Malone	John Nichols	Samuel H. Rountree	William E. Anderson	Donald W. Bain
1870 Charles C. Clark	Joseph B. Batchelor	John Nichols	Samuel H. Rountree	William E. Anderson	Donald W. Bain
1871 Charles C. Clark	Joseph B. Batchelor	John Nichols	Clinton A. Cilley	William E. Anderson	Donald W. Bain
1872 John Nichols	Thomas M. Gardner	Clinton A. Cilley	Robert W. Hardie	William E. Anderson	Donald W. Bain
1873 John Nichols	Thomas M. Gardner	Clinton A. Cilley	Robert W. Hardie	William E. Anderson	Donald W. Bain
1874 George W. Blount	Clinton A. Cilley	Horace H. Munson	Robert W. Hardie	William E. Anderson	Donald W. Bain
1875 George W. Blount	Samuel C. Shelton	Eugene Grissom	Robert V. Blackstock	William E. Anderson	Donald W. Bain
1876 Horace H. Munson	Clinton A. Cilley	Robert W. Hardie	James C. L. Gudger	William E. Anderson	Donald W. Bain
1877 Horace H. Munson	Thomas S. Kenan	Robert W. Hardie	James C. L. Gudger	William E. Anderson	Donald W. Bain
1878 William R. Cox	James C. L. Gudger	Chas. W. Alexander	Henry F. Grainger	William E. Anderson	Donald W. Bain
1879 William R. Cox	James C. L. Gudger	Chas. W. Alexander	Henry F. Grainger	William E. Anderson	Donald W. Bain
1880 Henry F. Grainger	James W. Reid	Robert Bingham	Charles H. Robinson	William E. Anderson	Donald W. Bain
1881 Henry F. Grainger	James W. Reid	Robert Bingham	Charles H. Robinson	William E. Anderson	Donald W. Bain
1882 Robert Bingham	Fabius H. Busbee	Charles H. Robinson	William T. Kennedy	William E. Anderson	Donald W. Bain
1884 Robert Bingham	Fabius H. Busbee	Charles H. Robinson	Samuel H. Smith	William E. Anderson	Donald W. Bain
1885 Fabius H. Busbee	Charles H. Robinson	Samuel H. Smith	Hezekiah A. Gudger	William E. Anderson	Donald W. Bain
1886 Fabius H. Busbee	Charles H. Robinson	Samuel H. Smith	Hezekiah A. Gudger	William E. Anderson	Donald W. Bain
1887 Charles H. Robinson	Samuel H. Smith	Hezekiah A. Gudger	John W. Cotten	William E. Anderson	Donald W. Bain
1888 Charles H. Robinson	Samuel H. Smith	Hezekiah A. Gudger	John W. Cotten	William E. Anderson	Donald W. Bain
1889 Samuel H. Smith	Hezekiah A. Gudger	John W. Cotten	Francis M. Moye	William E. Anderson	Donald W. Bain
1890 Samuel H. Smith	Hezekiah A. Gudger	John W. Cotten	Francis M. Moye	William E. Anderson	Donald W. Bain
1891 Hezekiah A. Gudger	John W. Cotten	Francis M. Moye	Richard J. Noble	Darius S. Waitt	Donald W. Bain
1892 Hezekiah A. Gudger	John W. Cotten	Francis M. Moye	Richard J. Noble	William Simpson	Donald W. Bain
1893 John W. Cotten	Francis M. Moye	Richard J. Noble	Walter E. Moore	William Simpson	William H. Bain
1894 John W. Cotten	Francis M. Moye	Richard J. Noble	Walter E. Moore	William Simpson	William H. Bain
1895 Francis M. Moye	Richard J. Noble	Walter E. Moore	James A. Leach	William Simpson	John C. Drewry
1896 Francis M. Moye	William H. Summerell	Walter E. Moore	Beverly S. Royster	William Simpson	John C. Drewry
1897 Walter E. Moore	Richard J. Noble	Beverly S. Royster	Henry Irwin Clark	William Simpson	John C. Drewry
1898 Walter E. Moore	Richard J. Noble	Beverly S. Royster	Henry Irwin Clark	William Simpson	John C. Drewry
1899 Richard J. Noble	Beverly S. Royster	Henry Irwin Clark	Walter S. Liddell	William Simpson	John C. Drewry
1900 Beverly S. Royster	Henry Irwin Clark	Walter S. Liddell	Francis D. Winston	William Simpson	John C. Drewry
1901 Beverly S. Royster	Henry Irwin Clark	Walter S. Liddell	Francis D. Winston	William Simpson	John C. Drewry

Grand Officers (Elective) Of North Carolina From Organization In 1787 To 2000

Grand Master	Deputy Grand Master	Senior Grand Warden	Junior Grand Warden	Grand Treasurer	Grand Secretary
1902 Henry Irwin Clark	Walter S. Liddell	Francis D. Winston	Samuel M. Gattis	William Simpson	John C. Drewry
1903 Henry Irwin Clark	Walter S. Liddell	Francis D. Winston	Samuel M. Gattis	William Simpson	John C. Drewry
1904 Walter S. Liddell	Francis D. Winston	Samuel M. Gattis	Richard N. Hackett	William Simpson	John C. Drewry
1905 Walter S. Liddell	Francis D. Winston	Samuel M. Gattis	Richard N. Hackett	Leo D. Heartt	John C. Drewry
1906 Francis D. Winston	Samuel M. Gattis	Richard N. Hackett	William B. McKoy	Leo D. Heartt	John C. Drewry
1907 Francis D. Winston	Samuel M. Gattis	Richard N. Hackett	William B. McKoy	Leo D. Heartt	John C. Drewry
1908 Samuel M. Gattis	Richard N. Hackett	William B. McKoy	F. M. Winchester	Leo D. Heartt	John C. Drewry
1909 Samuel M. Gattis	Richard N. Hackett	William B. McKoy	F. M. Winchester	Leo D. Heartt	John C. Drewry
1910 Richard N. Hackett	William B. McKoy	F. M. Winchester	John T. Alderman	Leo D. Heartt	John C. Drewry
1911 Richard N. Hackett	William B. McKoy	F. M. Winchester	John T. Alderman	Leo D. Heartt	John C. Drewry
1912 William B. McKoy	Francis M. Winchester	John T. Alderman	Frank P. Hobgood, Jr.	Leo D. Heartt	John C. Drewry
1913 Francis M. Winchester	John T. Alderman	Frank P. Hobgood, Jr.	Alex B. Andrews, Jr.	Leo D. Heartt	John C. Drewry
1914 John T. Alderman	Frank P. Hobgood, Jr.	Alex B. Andrews, Jr.	Claude L. Pridgen	Leo D. Heartt	John C. Drewry
1915 Frank P. Hobgood, Jr.	Alex B. Andrews, Jr.	Claude L. Pridgen	George S. Norfleet	Leo D. Heartt	John C. Drewry
1916 Alex B. Andrews, Jr.	Claude L. Pridgen	George S. Norfleet	Henry A. Grady	Leo D. Heartt	John C. Drewry
1917 Claude L. Pridgen	George S. Norfleet	Henry A. Grady	James C. Braswell	Leo D. Heartt	William W. Wilson
1918 George S. Norfleet	Henry A. Grady	James C. Braswell	J. Bailey Owen	Benjamin R. Lacy	William W. Wilson
1919 Henry A. Grady	James C. Braswell	J. Bailey Owen	James H. Webb	Benjamin R. Lacy	William W. Wilson
1920 James C. Braswell	J. Bailey Owen	James H. Webb	Hubert M. Poteat	Benjamin R. Lacy	William W. Wilson
1921 J. Bailey Owen	James H. Webb	Hubert M. Poteat	J. LeGrand Everett	Benjamin R. Lacy	William W. Wilson
1922 James H. Webb	Hubert M. Poteat	J. LeGrand Everett	Leon Cash	Benjamin R. Lacy	William W. Wilson
1923 Hubert M. Poteat	J. LeGrand Everett	Leon Cash	John E. Cameron	Benjamin R. Lacy	William W. Wilson
1924 J. LeGrand Everett	Leon Cash	John E. Cameron	John H. Anderson	Benjamin R. Lacy	William W. Wilson
1925 Leon Cash	John E. Cameron	John H. Anderson	Raymond C. Dunn	Benjamin R. Lacy	William W. Wilson
1926 John E. Cameron	John H. Anderson	Raymond C. Dunn	John J. Phoenix	Benjamin R. Lacy	William W. Wilson
1927 John H. Anderson	Raymond C. Dunn	John J. Phoenix	A. J. Harris	Benjamin R. Lacy	William W. Wilson
1928 Raymond C. Dunn	John J. Phoenix	E. W. Timberlake, Jr.	B. S. Royster, Jr.	Benjamin R. Lacy	William W. Wilson
1929 John J. Phoenix	E. W. Timberlake, Jr.	B. S. Royster, Jr.	J. Wallace Winborne	Benjamin R. Lacy	John H. Anderson
1930 Edgar W. Timberlake, Jr.	J. Wallace Winborne	Herbert C. Alexander	P. T. Wilson	John J. Phoenix	John H. Anderson
1931 J. Wallace Winborne	Herbert C. Alexander	P. T. Wilson	Roy F. Ebbs	John J. Phoenix	John H. Anderson
1932 Herbert C. Alexander	P. T. Wilson	Roy F. Ebbs	Charles B. Newcomb	John J. Phoenix	John H. Anderson
1933 P. T. Wilson	Roy F. Ebbs	Charles B. Newcomb	J. Giles Hudson	John J. Phoenix	John H. Anderson
1934 Roy F. Ebbs	Charles B. Newcomb	J. Giles Hudson	Watson N. Sherrod	Herbert C. Alexander	John H. Anderson
1935 Charles B. Newcomb	J. Giles Hudson	Watson N. Sherrod	Harry T. Paterson	Herbert C. Alexander	John H. Anderson
1936 J. Giles Hudson	Watson N. Sherrod	Harry T. Paterson	J. Edward Allen	Herbert C. Alexander	John H. Anderson
1937 Watson N. Sherrod	Harry T. Paterson	J. Edward Allen	Thos. J. Harkins	Herbert C. Alexander	John H. Anderson
1938 Harry T. Paterson	J. Edward Allen	Thos. J. Harkins	Charles P. Eldridge	Herbert C. Alexander	John H. Anderson
1939 J. Edward Allen	Thos. J. Harkins	Charles P. Eldridge	James E. Shipman	Herbert C. Alexander	John H. Anderson

Grand Officers (Elective) Of North Carolina From Organization In 1787 To 2000

Grand Master	Deputy Grand Master	Senior Grand Warden	Junior Grand Warden	Grand Treasurer	Grand Secretary
1940 Thomas J. Harkins	Charles P. Eldridge	James E. Shipman	James W. Payne	Herbert C. Alexander	John H. Anderson
1941 Charles P. Eldridge	James E. Shipman	James W. Payne	Julius C. Hobbs	Herbert C. Alexander	John H. Anderson
1942 James E. Shipman	James W. Payne	Julius C. Hobbs	Clyde H. Jarrett	Herbert C. Alexander	John H. Anderson
1943 James W. Payne	Julius C. Hobbs	Clyde H. Jarrett	William J. Bundy	Herbert C. Alexander	John H. Anderson
1944 Julius C. Hobbs	Clyde H. Jarrett	William J. Bundy	Luther T. Hartsell, Jr. ...	Herbert C. Alexander	John H. Anderson
1945 Clyde H. Jarrett	William J. Bundy	Luther T. Hartsell, Jr. ...	Maxwell E. Hoffman	Herbert C. Alexander	Chas. B. Newcomb
1946 William J. Bundy	Luther T. Hartsell, Jr. ...	Maxwell E. Hoffman	Wilkins P. Horton	Herbert C. Alexander	Wilbur L. McIver
1947 Luther T. Hartsell, Jr.	Maxwell E. Hoffman	Wilkins P. Horton	Wallace E. Caldwell	Herbert C. Alexander	Wilbur L. McIver
1948 Maxwell E. Hoffman	Wilkins P. Horton	Wallace E. Caldwell	Herbert M. Foy	Herbert C. Alexander	Wilbur L. McIver
1949 Wilkins P. Horton	Wallace E. Caldwell	Herbert M. Foy	William H. White	Herbert C. Alexander	Wilbur L. McIver
1950 Wallace E. Caldwell	Herbert M. Foy	William H. White	Edwin T. Howard	Herbert C. Alexander	Wilbur L. McIver
1951 Herbert M. Foy	William H. White	Edwin T. Howard	Robert L. Pugh	Herbert C. Alexander	Wilbur L. McIver
1952 William H. White	Edwin T. Howard	Robert L. Pugh	Charles H. Pugh	Herbert C. Alexander	Wilbur L. McIver
1953 Edwin T. Howard	Robert L. Pugh	Charles H. Pugh	John C. Vance	Herbert C. Alexander	Wilbur L. McIver
1954 Robert L. Pugh	Charles H. Pugh	John C. Vance	Charles A. Harris	Herbert C. Alexander	Wilbur L. McIver
1955 Charles H. Pugh	John C. Vance	Charles A. Harris	James G. Johnston	Herbert C. Alexander	Wilbur L. McIver
1956 John C. Vance	Charles A. Harris	James G. Johnston	W. Eli Hand	Herbert C. Alexander	Wilbur L. McIver
1957 Charles A. Harris	James G. Johnston	W. Eli Hand	Harvey W. Smith	Herbert C. Alexander	Wilbur L. McIver
1958 James G. Johnston	W. Eli Hand	Harvey W. Smith	Lester H. Gillikin	Herbert M. Foy	Wilbur I. McIver
1959 W. Eli Hand	Harvey W. Smith	Lester H. Gillikin	James W. Brewer	Herbert M. Foy	Charles A. Harris
1960 Harvey W. Smith	James W. Brewer	Charles C. Ricker	J. Edward Rooker, Jr. ...	Herbert M. Foy	Charles A. Harris
1961 James W. Brewer	Charles C. Ricker	W. Edward Burrier	G. Dudley Humphrey	Herbert M. Foy	Charles A. Harris
1962 Charles C. Ricker	W. Edward Burrier	G. Dudley Humphrey	Sam A. Hennis, Jr.	James W. Brewer	Charles A. Harris
1963 W. Edward Burrier	G. Dudley Humphrey	Sam A. Hennis, Jr.	Arnold J. Koonce, Sr.	James W. Brewer	Charles A. Harris
1964 G. Dudley Humphrey	Sam A. Hennis, Jr.	Arnold J. Koonce, Sr.	Alfred A. Kafer, Jr.	James W. Brewer	Charles A. Harris
1965 Sam A. Hennis, Jr.	Arnold J. Koonce, Sr.	Alfred A. Kafer, Jr.	Robert N. Bass, Jr.	James W. Brewer	Charles A. Harris
1966 Arnold J. Koonce, Sr.	Alfred A. Kafer, Jr.	Robert N. Bass, Jr.	William A. Hooks	James W. Brewer	Charles A. Harris
1967 Alfred A. Kafer, Jr.	Robert N. Bass, Jr.	William A. Hooks	Maurice E. Walsh	James W. Brewer	Charles A. Harris
1968 Robert N. Bass, Jr.	William A. Hooks	Maurice E. Walsh	William W. Mims, Jr.	James W. Brewer	Charles A. Harris
1969 William A. Hooks	Maurice E. Walsh	William W. Mims, Jr.	Berl M. Kahn	James W. Brewer	Charles A. Harris
1970 Maurice E. Walsh	William W. Mims, Jr.	Berl M. Kahn	Nathaniel C. Dean	James W. Brewer	Charles A. Harris
1971 William W. Mims, Jr.	Berl M. Kahn	Nathaniel C. Dean	William L. Mills, Jr.	James W. Brewer	Charles A. Harris
1972 Berl M. Kahn	Nathaniel C. Dean	William L. Mills, Jr.	S. Frank Noble, Jr.	James W. Brewer	Charles A. Harris
1973 Nathaniel C. Dean	William L. Mills, Jr.	S. Frank Noble, Jr.	Hiram J. Casebolt	James W. Brewer	Charles A. Harris
1974 William L. Mills, Jr.	S. Frank Noble, Jr.	Hiram J. Casebolt	Leslie H. Garner	James W. Brewer	Robert P. Dudley
1975 S. Frank Noble, Jr.	Hiram J. Casebolt	Leslie H. Garner	J. Earl Watson	James W. Brewer	Robert P. Dudley
1976 Leslie H. Garner	J. Earl Watson	William B. Bellois	William B. Bellois	James W. Brewer	Robert P. Dudley
1977 J. Earl Watson	Jacob C. Goodman	William B. Bellois	E. Stansil Aldridge	James W. Brewer	Robert P. Dudley

Grand Officers (Elective) Of North Carolina From Organization In 1787 To 2000

Grand Master	Deputy Grand Master	Senior Grand Warden	Junior Grand Warden	Grand Treasurer	Grand Secretary
1978 Jacob C. Goodman	William B. Bellois	E. Stansil Aldridge	Nelson B. Banks	James W. Brewer	Robert P. Dudley
1979 William B. Bellois	E. Stansil Aldridge	Nelson B. Banks	A. C. Honeycutt	James W. Brewer	Robert P. Dudley
1980 E. Stansil Aldridge	Nelson B. Banks	A. C. Honeycutt	Cecil J. Liverman	James W. Brewer	Robert P. Dudley
1981 Nelson B. Banks	A. C. Honeycutt	Cecil J. Liverman	I. Boyd Hopkins	James W. Brewer	Robert P. Dudley
1982 A. C. Honeycutt	Cecil J. Liverman	I. Boyd Hopkins	Norburn C. Hyatt	James W. Brewer	Robert P. Dudley
1983 Cecil J. Liverman	I. Boyd Hopkins	Norburn C. Hyatt	Walter F. McCall	James W. Brewer	Robert P. Dudley
1984 I. Boyd Hopkins	Norburn C. Hyatt	Walter F. McCall	Eddie P. Stiles	James W. Brewer	Robert P. Dudley
1985 Norburn C. Hyatt	Walter F. McCall	Eddie P. Stiles	L. R. Thomas, Jr.	Sam A. Hennis, Jr.	Robert P. Dudley
1986 Walter F. McCall	Eddie P. Stiles	L. R. Thomas, Jr.	Jerry G. Tart	Sam A. Hennis, Jr.	Robert P. Dudley
1987 Eddie P. Stiles	L. R. Thomas	Jerry G. Tart	B. T. Phillips, Jr.	Sam A. Hennis, Jr.	Robert P. Dudley
1988 L. R. Thomas, Jr.	Jerry G. Tart	B. T. Phillips, Jr.	Lester P. Martin, Jr.	Sam A. Hennis, Jr.	Robert P. Dudley
1989 Jerry G. Tart	B. T. Phillips, Jr.	Lester P. Martin, Jr.	Willett R. Tillett	Sam A. Hennis, Jr.	Robert P. Dudley
1990 Bunn T. Phillips, Jr.	Lester P. Martin, Jr.	Willett R. Tillett	Ray Norris	Sam A. Hennis, Jr.	Robert P. Dudley
1991 Lester P. Martin, Jr.	Ray Norris	Richard G. Moore	William B. Brunk	Sam A. Hennis, Jr.	Robert P. Dudley
1992 Ray Norris	Richard G. Moore	William B. Brunk	Clifton W. Everett, Jr.	Jerry G. Tart	Robert P. Dudley
1993 Richard G. Moore	William B. Brunk	Clifton W. Everett, Jr.	William H. Simpson	Jerry G. Tart	Robert P. Dudley
1994 William B. Brunk	Clifton W. Everett, Jr.	William H. Simpson	Gerry T. Smith, Sr.	Jerry G. Tart	Robert P. Dudley
1995 Clifton W. Everett, Jr.	William H. Simpson	Gerry T. Smith	Thomas W. Gregory	Jerry G. Tart	Robert P. Dudley
1996 William H. Simpson	Gerry T. Smith	Thomas W. Gregory	Charles M. Ingram	Clifton W. Everett, Jr.	Robert P. Dudley
1997 Gerry T. Smith	Thomas W. Gregory	Charles M. Ingram	Charles E. Cathey	Clifton W. Everett, Jr.	T. Walton Clapp, III
1998 Thomas W. Gregory	Charles M. Ingram	Charles E. Cathey	William L. Mills, III	Clifton W. Everett, Jr.	T. Walton Clapp, III
1999 Charles M. Ingram	Charles E. Cathey	William L. Mills, III	William G. Mathis	Clifton W. Everett, Jr.	T. Walton Clapp, III
2000 Charles E. Cathey	William L. Mills, III	William G. Mathis	Jerry R. Tillett	Clifton W. Everett, Jr.	T. Walton Clapp, III

Grand Lodges, And Grand Representatives

Grand Lodge	Their Grand Representative Near Our Grand Lodge	Our Grand Representative Near Their Grand Lodges
United States Of America		
Alabama (F&AM)	J. William Hudson	Richard Herbert Mallows
Alaska (F&AM)	Bunn T. Phillips, Jr.	Henry T. Dunbar
Arizona (F&AM)	Leslie H. Garner	Conrad H. Baldwin, PGM
Arkansas (F&AM)	James E. Warren	Thomas J. Dooley
California (F&AM)	William R. Brunk	Herbert Hargrave, Jr.
Colorado (AF&AM)	James S. Porter	Lawrence A. Long, Jr.
Connecticut (AF&AM)	William K. Price	Stephen D. Piner
Delaware (AF&AM)	Gilbert R. Cooper	John N. Fortner
Dist. of Columbia F&AM)	William L. Kilpatrick	Jules S. Tepper
Florida (F&AM)	Michael N. Clark	George W. Lavene
Georgia (F&AM)	Robert E. Marshburn	E. Ray Knittel
Hawaii (AF&AM)	Charles E. Cathey	
Idaho (AF&AM)	Louis O. Dean, Jr.	Philip Drew
Illinois (AF&AM)	Jerry R. Tillet	James J. Evans
Indiana (F&AM)	Lester P. Martin, Jr.	William L. Hufford
Iowa (AF&AM)	IOWA does NOT exchange Grand Reps.	
Kansas (AF&AM)	E. John Elmore	Jerry W. Cole
Kentucky (F&AM)	Leonard Y. Safrit	Thomas E. Dicken
Louisiana (F&AM)	Norburn C. Hyatt	Ernest S. Smith
Maine (AF&AM)	James G. Martin	Kenneth C. Mitchell
Maryland (AF&AM)	Walter F. McCall	C. David Haacke
Massachusetts (AF&AM)	Clifton W. Everett, Jr.	James Taylor Watson, Jr.
Michigan (F&AM)	M. D. Jones	Russel C. Wells
Minnesota	C. F. Dickinson	David S. Bouschor
Mississippi (F&AM)	Hugh T. Hardee, Jr.	Gene A. Mills

Grand Lodges, And Grand Representatives

Grand Lodge	Their Grand Representative Near Our Grand Lodge	Our Grand Representative Near Their Grand Lodges
Missouri (AF&AM)	Ray M. Comer	Eldon D. Turnbull
Montana (AF&AM)	S. Frank Noble, Jr.	James D. McColly
Nebraska (AF&AM)	Ray H. Early, Jr.	Cullen F. Pilker
Nevada (F&AM)	W. Dennis Combs	Henry C. Nelson
New Hampshire (F&AM)	Cecil J. Liverman	Arnold B. Christiansen, Jr.
New Jersey (F&AM)	Gene T. Jernigan	Francis R. Mitchell
New Mexico (AF&AM)	NEW MEXICO does NOT exchange Grand Reps. ..	
New York (F&AM)	Sam A. Hennis, PGM	Jacob E. Beardsley
North Dakota (AF&AM)	Ray Norris	Jess Stabenow
Ohio (F&AM)	Johnny R. West	Robert B. Will, Jr.
Oklahoma (AF&AM)	Donald Street	William J. Cloud
Oregon (AF&AM)	David R. Grissom	Kent Scott McArthur
Pennsylvania (F&AM)	PENNSYLVANIA doe NOT exchange Grand Reps.	
Rhode Island (F&AM)	Dallas Holoman	Arthur R. Medley
South Carolina (A.F.M.)	William H. Simpson	Robert V. Pinkson
South Dakota (AF&AM)	J. Warren Jeffries	Allen Kettering
Tennessee (F&AM)	Edward J. Harper, II	Thomas F. White
Texas (AF&AM)	H. M. Harvey, Jr.	Plez Avery Transou
Utah (F&AM)	James H. Coile	John R. Lay
Vermont (F&AM)	Thomas G. Foster	Gerald Morong
Virginia (AF&AM)	W. Berry Rigdon	John P. Stokes
Washington (F&AM)	Claude E. Childress	Marks L. Edwing
West Virginia (AF&AM)	Tommy L. Jones	Billy F. Gardner
Wisconsin (F&AM)	William G. Mathis	Rick E. Gustafson
Wyoming (AF&AM)	WYOMING does NOT exchange Grand Reps.	

Grand Lodges, And Grand Representatives

Grand Lodge	Their Grand Representative Near Our Grand Lodge	Our Grand Representative Near Their Grand Lodges
Canada, Dominion of		
Alberta (AF&AM)	Robert R. Harrison	R. T. Martins
British Columbia (AF&AM)	G. Dick Pierce	Gordon Stuart Wright
Canada, Province of Ontario (AF&AM)	Jerry R. Tillett	Douglas F. Clark
Manitoba (AF&AM)	David A. Thomas, Sr.	John L. Rankin
New Brunswick (F&AM)	Thomas J. Mann	Alfred B. Weldon
Newfoundland & Labrador		
Nova Scotia (AF&AM)	Charles A. Lewis, Jr.	G. Edison Mac Neil
Prince Edward Island (AF&AM)	Earle R. Purser	William Lavers
Quebec (AF&AM)	James M. Galloway, Jr.	Harold Allen
Saskatchewan (AF&AM)	George Kalamaras	Stanley A. Reavie
British Isles (United Kingdom)		
England (United Grand Lodge of)	T. Walton Clapp, III	Gerald J. K. Coles
Ireland (AF&AM)	W. Phillip Keller	Mervyn W. Morrison
Scotland (AF&AM)	Galard C. Moore, Jr.	M. R. Allan Mackay
Australia		
New South Wales (AF&AM)	Kenneth L. Smith	K. M. Bellingham
New Zealand (AF&AM)		Ross Hepburn
Queensland (AF&AM)	Edwin L. Becton	Keith Brewer Gall
South Australia (AF&AM)	Joseph K. Transou	D. B. Walton
Tasmania (AF&AM)	Richard G. Moore	Alan Frank Bailey
Victoria (AF&AM)	Paul L. Whitfield	Justice Williams
Western Australia (AF&AM)	T. Bruce Boyette	S. D. Bishop

Grand Lodges, And Grand Representatives

Grand Lodge	Their Grand Representative Near Our Grand Lodge	Our Grand Representative Near Their Grand Lodges
Central America		
Costa Rica (F&AM)	Douglas L. Caudle	Luis Castro Barquero
Guatemala	Eddie H. Moody, Jr.	S. Guillermo Ricci Fernandez
Nicaragua	Robert M. Bird	Federico Lopez
Panama (AF&AM) Panama City, Republic of Panama	Carl McCracken, Jr.	David C. Sasso
*Cuscatlan Grand Logia de la Republica El Salvador	George A. Nash	Frank Wagner Goens
Mexico		
Baja California, Gran Logia de Estado de (AF&AM)	John H. Stanley	
Benito Juzrez, Grand Logia del Estado de Coahuila		Auturo Escobedo Pina
Chiapas, Grand Logia Del Estado de	J. Dewey Misenheimer	Abelardo R. Velasco
El Potosi (San Luis Potosi)	Floyd M. Burton	
Nuevo Leon, Gran Logia Del Estado de	Silas D. Fuller	F. B. Vriarte
"Occidental Mexicana", Gran Logia (AF&AM)	D. D. Phillips, Jr.	Luis Mendez
"La Oriental Peninsular", Gran Logia (AF&AM)	Don Floyd	Heliodore Rodriquez Aguilar
Tamaulipas (F&AM)	Roger L. Euliss	Dr. Salvador Cerda, Jr.
Veracruz, Grand Lodge Unida Mexicana (F& ofAM)	Walter Klein	Angel N. Rosas
Valle de Mexico (F&AM)	Robert L. Parker	Enrique P. Loya
York Grand Lodge of Mexico (F&AM)		William R. Shiele
West Indies		
Puerto Rico, Sov. Grand Lodge of (F&AM)	M. Gene Lewellyn	Luis F. Rios-Vazquez
Republica Dominicana, Gran Logia D La Rep. Dom	James H. Horne	Miguel A. Camarena Lopez
South America		
Argentina (F&AM)	Kolen Flack	Juan Jose F. Palacios

Grand Lodges, And Grand Representatives

Grand Lodge	Their Grand Representative Near Our Grand Lodge	Our Grand Representative Near Their Grand Lodges
Bolivia	T. Manly Honeycutt	Cyril H. Rees
Brazil		
Amazonas and Acre	Fred S. Daniels, Sr.	Dr. Pedro Telmo Barba
Bahia, Grande Loja Unida Do	Norman C. Miller, Jr.	Joir Da Silva Martins Brasileiro
Ceara, Grande Loja Do (AF&AM)	Alton L. Strickland	Menesclau De Araujo Costa
Goiás, Grand Lodge of the State of (F&AM)	Garibaldi Rizzo de Cartro, Jr.
Minas Gerais, Symbolic Grand Lodge of (F&AM)	A. Gene Cobb, Jr.	Dr. Hemano Lott, Jr.
Para, Grande Loja Do Para (F&AM)	James S. Lofton	Raimundo Leite Pereira
Parahyba, Grande Loja Do	Robin S. McCombs	Mario Carneiro Da Costa
Piaui, Grande Loja Do (AF&AM)	Dewey C. Crutchfield	Jose Ribeiro de Carvalho
Guanaba, Grande Loja Do Estado Da	Elwyn D. Bowman	Sergio Alexandre Cunha Camargo
Rio Grande Do Sul	Gerald W. Ringler	Samuel H. Jones
Sao Paulo, Grande Loja Do Estado Do Sao Paulo	Fred L. Sherrill, Jr.	Jose Roberto Kfoury
Chile		
(AF&AM)	Thomas L. Hartman	Floreal Toledo Vjlarjn
Brasilia (AF&AM)	Bobby L. Womble
Colombia (State Grand Lodges)		
Nacional de Colombia at	Frank Welpley
Bogota, Gran Logia de Colombia at	Gerry T. Smith	Dr. Elian Pinzon Neira
Cali, Gran Logia Occidental de Colombia at	Arturo Gomez Hernandez
Cartagena, Ser. Gran Logia Nacional de Colombia at	Kenneth H. Sitton	Manuel Ferfle Romero
Ecuador, Gran Logia (AF&AM)	J. Carroll Simmons	Ing. Boanerges Pin M.
Paraguay, Symbolic Grand Lodge of	John Herschleb

Grand Lodges, And Grand Representatives

Grand Lodge	Their Grand Representative Near Our Grand Lodge	Our Grand Representative Near Their Grand Lodges
Peru, Symbolic Grand Lodge of AF&AM	Willie P. Goodwin	Emilio Guerra Pejovez
Venezuela, Gran Logia de la Republic of	A. C. Honeycutt	
Europe		
Austria (Vienna) (AF&AM)	Charles E. Scott, Jr.	
Belgium, Grande Loge de	Marshall Dilling	Daniel Bauwens
Czechoslovakia	Harry J. Stokes	
Denmark, National Grand Lodge of	L. R. Thomas, Jr.	Soren Nielsen
Finland (F&AM)	Terry K. Jones	Seppo Penttinen
France (Grande Loge Nationale Francaise)	William D. Maness	Nat Granstein
Germany, United Grand Lodge of (AF&AM)	H. Lloyd Wilkerson	John A. Williams
Greece (AF&AM)	Thomas W. Gregory	Demetrios Papakyriakou
Hungary	Ronnie Stewart	Robert Schiller
Luxembourg (Grande Loge de Luxembourg)	Jerry L. Stapleford	Albert Nils
Iceland, National Grand Lodge of (AF&AM)	Lester P. Martin, Jr.	Erlendur Einarsson
Italy, Grand Orient of	Charles M. Ingram	Vincenzo Ciruzzi
Netherlands, The Grand East of the (F&AM)	William L. Mills, III	A.Th. ten Houten
Norway	Charles E. Holcomb	Ivar Skar
Portugal (Grande Loja Legal de Portugal)		Olivio L. Dias
Romania		
Spain (AF&AM)	Louis B. Meyer	Eric O'Hara
Sweden	Graham W. Pervier	Olof Kallin
Switzerland, Grand Lodge Alpina of	W. David Ford	Walter Kyburz
Yugoslavia	James O. Hartman	
Asia		
China (F&AM)	Henson P. Barnes	Peter K. C. Tsai

Grand Lodges, And Grand Representatives

Grand Lodge	Their Grand Representative Near Our Grand Lodge	Our Grand Representative Near Their Grand Lodges
India (AF&AM)	Michael H. Rachael	V. O. Abraham
Iran (F&AM)	Louis W. Shrier	Mohammad Hassan Turan
Israel (AF&AM)	Ralph P. Presley	Tully Steinbach
Japan (F&AM)	William R. Leggett	Hayao Otsuki
Philippines (F&AM)	Forrest F. Ball	Rdyardo V. Bunda
Turkey (F&AM)		Melih Sarter
Africa		
Grande Loge du Senegal		
Southern Africa (AF&AM)	Edward D. Hartsell	P. J. Van Der Merwe

**Lodges Under the Jurisdiction
Of
The Grand Lodge
Of
Ancient, Free And Accepted Masons
Of
North Carolina**

Subordinate Lodges

Grand Lodge of AF&AM of North Carolina

Listing Key

Lodge (District)
Town
Lodge Location
Meeting Night
M-Master
S-Secretary

St. John's 1 (10) Wilmington 4712 Oriole Drive 2 Tuesday M-Kenneth West S-Mervin E. Hogg	Johnston-Caswell 10 (21) Warrenton 611 S. Main Street 1 & 3 Monday M-Eddie Q. Clayton, Jr. S-George A. Fleming	Davie 39 (2) Ahoskie Corner North & Mitchell 1 & 3 Thursday M-Clemmon W. Bridgers, Jr. S-Orrin C. Harrell
Royal White Hart 2 (20) Halifax Not available 1 Tuesday M-Denny B. Landen S-Wilbur A. Garner	Caswell Brotherhood 11 (34) Yanceyville Firetower Road 1 & 3 Monday M-Michael K. Cobb S-L. Franklin Robertson	Hiram 40 (24) Raleigh 1520 Caswell Street 1 & 3 Monday M-Charles V. Rouse, Jr. S-John S. Mahoney Liberty 45 (50) Wilkesboro School Street 1 Thursday M-John D. Slate S-William R. Brown
St. John's 3 (7) New Bern 516 Hancock Street 2 & 4 Wednesday, October-May 2 Wednesday, June-September M-Charles E. Strunk, Jr. S-E. Coy Wetherington	St. John's 13 (12) Kenansville Lodge Street 1 Thursday M-Kenneth P. Bell S-Snodie B. Wilson	Hall 53 (1) Shawboro Indiantown Road 1 Wednesday M-Kenneth L. Coe S-Willard J. Wilson
St. John's 4 (11) Kinston 1810 N. Heritage Street 2 & 4 Monday M-Thomas C. Humphrey S-Sterling W. Gillikin, Jr.	American George 17 (19) Murfreesboro College Street 1 & 3 Monday M-Randolph W. Whitley S-Joseph Q. Dickerson	Concord 58 (18) Tarboro 1601 Barlow Road 2 & 4 Tuesday M-Randy B. Pollard S-E. Ray Register
Charity 5 (2) Windsor King Street 2 Monday M-James W. Perry S-Miles C. Davis, Jr.	Eagle 19 (32) Hillsborough 142 West King Street 2 & 4 Tuesday M-Lloyd E. Wentler S-Christopher A. Raynor	Perseverance 59 (4) Plymouth 703 NC Hwy 32 S 1 & 3 Tuesday M-Luther C. Jett, Jr. S-Harrison W. Phelps
Unanimity 7 (1) Edenton 215 E. Water Street 2 & 4 Thursday M-Bryan P. Bass S-Carlton F. Jackson	Statesville 27 (52) Statesville 302 E. Front Street 1 & 3 Tuesday M-Joseph P. Link S-Grover R. Lackey	Kilwinning 64 (39) Wadesboro S. Greene Street 2 & 4 Thursday 2 Thursday, Nov.-Dec. M-Robert A. Dugas S-James L. Woodburn
Phoenix 8 (29) Fayetteville 221 Mason Street 2 Tuesday M-Floyd L. Trimmer S-Robert J. Nunes	Phalanx 31 (42) Charlotte 4740 Randolph Road 1 Tuesday M-Warren M. Miller S-Paul W. Poley	Widow's Son 75 (1) Camden 106 N. Hwy 343 1 & 3 Thursday M-George W. White S-Lynn H. Berry
	Stokes 32 (43) Concord 51 Brumley Avenue 1 Monday M-Timothy E. Smith S-Henry R. Tucker	

- Greensboro 76 (36)**
Greensboro
426 W. Market Street
2 & 4 Thursday
M-Curtis S. Sellers
S-Carl R. Hall
Zion 81 (7)
Trenton
Lakeview Drive
1 & 3 Thursday
M-Ernest F. Andrews
S-Anthony R. Berg
- LaFayette 83 (9)**
Jacksonville
305 Chaney Avenue
1 & 3 Tuesday
M-George H. Dodds, Jr.
S-Robert P. Savacool
- Fellowship 84 (27)**
Smithfield
907 S. Bright Leaf Blvd.
1 & 3 Thursday
M-Matthew L. Casey
S-Floyd W. Stewart
- Morning Star 85 (18)**
Nashville
220 Barnes Street
2 & 4 Tuesday
M-Scott E. Hunt
S-Cicero D. Jones, II
- Skewarkee 90 (2)**
Williamston
610 N. Smithwick Street
2 & 4 Tuesday
M-Edward E. Mobley
S-Frederick E. Oglebay
- Western Star 91 (59)**
Rutherfordton
329 S. Main Street
1 & 3 Tuesday
M-William L. Hamrick
S-William F. Harper
- Joseph Warren 92 (17)**
Stantonsburg
8226 Stancil Town Road
1 Thursday
M-Kris E. Radford
S-Lewis A. Laumann, Sr.
- Jerusalem 95 (11)**
Hookerton
201 N. Main Street
2 Tuesday
M-John B. McLawhorn, Jr.
S-John I. Whitfield
- Millbrook 97 (25)**
Raleigh
2400 New Hope Road
1 & 3 Tuesday
M-Thomas V. Fahnestock, Jr.
S-Nelson L. Henthorne
- Hiram 98 (15)**
Clinton
213 Fisher Drive
1 & 3 Tuesday
1 Tuesday June, July, August
M-Edward E. Wells
S-Russell W. Lewis
- Fulton 99 (44)**
Salisbury
401 N. Fulton Street
2 & 4 Monday
M-Richard W. Arey, Jr.
S-Sydney J. Bame
- Columbus 102 (31)**
Pittsboro
121 East Street
1 Tuesday
M-Gary L. Blankenship
S-James F. Norwood
- Orr 104 (4)**
Washington
116 E. Third Street
1 & 3 Tuesday
M-James G. Shiver
S-Harry J. Stokes
- Perquimans 106 (1)**
Hertford
Church Street
1 & 3 Tuesday
M-George R. Gause, Jr.
S-Cecil E. Winslow
- Franklin 109 (8)**
Beaufort
204 Turner Street
1 & 3 Monday
M-Orville L. Jones
S-Ottis R. Jefferson, Jr.
- Wayne 112 (16)**
Goldsboro
2301 Norwood Avenue
1 & 3 Monday
M-Clarence J. Elrod
S-Gary T. White
- Person 113 (33)**
Roxboro
Leasburg Road
2 & 4 Tuesday
2 Tuesday December
M-Wallace R. Bradsher, Jr.
S-Ronald E. Hicks
- St. Alban's 114 (14)**
Lumberton
600 N. Elm Street
1 Tuesday
M-James T. Paul
S-Benjamin H. Blake
- Holly Springs 115 (26)**
Holly Springs
224 Raleigh Street
2 & 4 Tuesday
M-Christian L. Cypher
S-Sidney W. Alvis
- Mount Lebanon 117 (17)**
Wilson
2501 West Nash Street
1 & 3 Monday
M-Ralph A. Ellis
S-Hughes Dillard
- Mount Hermon 118 (61)**
Asheville
80 Broadway
1 Thursday
M-James P. Henderson
S-Kenneth B. Lance
Oxford 122 (33)
Oxford
105 W. College Street
1 & 3 Monday
M-Allen M. Carraway, II
S-Donald L. Sizemore
- Franklinton 123 (22)**
Franklinton
Not available
1 & 3 Tuesday
M-Ryland E. Grissom
S-Charles L. Holloway
- Mill Creek 125 (15)**
Newton Grove
Raleigh Street
1 & 3 Thursday
M-Henry J. Cook
S-Dennis R. Sheppard
- Gatesville 126 (1)**
Gatesville
125 Main Street
1 & 3 Thursday
M-Emmett E. Benton
S-Luther H. Eure
- Blackmer 127 (38)**
Mount Gilead
109 S. School Street
1 & 3 Tuesday
M-James R. Rodgers, Jr.
S-James S. McRae
- Hanks 128 (37)**
Franklinville
157 W. Main Street
2 Monday
M-Phillip E. Matthews
S-James D. Eddins
- Dan River 129 (35)**
Madison
110 Decatur Street
1 & 3 Monday
M-Robert S. Wyatt
S-Stanley L. Allen
- Radiance 132 (11)**
Snow Hill
Not available
1 & 3 Wednesday
M-Bennie J. Heath
S-James P. Wooten

- Mocksville 134 (48)**
Mocksville
134 Ridgeview Street
1 Tuesday
M-Charlie A. Whaley
S-Eugene W. Smith
- Leaksville 136 (35)**
Eden
419 Thompson Street
2 & 4 Monday
2 Monday in December
M-Howard L. Smith, III
S-Walter F. Reid, Jr.
- Lincoln 137 (53)**
Lincolnton
100 W. Sycamore Street
1 Monday
M-Terry L. Smith
S-Allen J. Tate
- King Solomon 138 (10)**
Burgaw
Walker Street
3 Monday
M-James W. Connor
S-Ronald D. Graves
- Mount Vernon 143 (31)**
Bonlee
185 Bonlee-Bennett Road
3 Tuesday
M-Robert A. Smith
S-Earle R. Moody
- Junaluskee 145 (64)**
Franklin
26 Church Street
1 & 3 Tuesday
M-Michael A. Norris
S-James M. Bryson, II
- Cherokee 146 (65)**
Murphy
100 Hiwassee Street
1 Monday
M-William A. Vespasian
S-Edward T. Menasian
- Palmyra 147 (28)**
Dunn
700 Maple Avenue
1 Tuesday
M-Milton B. Byrd
S-Clarence E. McLamb, Jr.
- Adoniram 149 (33)**
Cornwall
College Street
1 Tuesday
M-Ollie D. Jones, Jr.
S-Ben J. Neal
- Pee Dee 150 (38)**
Norwood
116 West Whitley Street
1 & 3 Thursday
M-David W. Pope
S-Wesley A. Faulkner, Jr.
- Sanford 151 (31)**
Sanford
202 Charlotte Street
2 & 4 Tuesday
M-John W. Lester
S-Lee R. Goodwin
- Scotch Ireland 154 (44)**
Cleveland
104 S. Depot Street
2 & 4 Tuesday
M-Billy Ray McIntosh
S-Clyde S. Waller, Jr.
- White Stone 155 (23)**
Wakefield
Not available
2 Wednesday & 4 Saturday
M-Jerry Eason
S-Joe D. Medlin, Jr.
- Knap of Reeds 158 (32)**
Bahama
158 Bahama Road
1 & 3 Wednesday
M-Robert E. Porter
S-Elmer D. Spence
- Yadkin 162 (46)**
Yadkinville
Not available
1 & 3 Monday
M-Charles A. Lahr
S-Roy D. Casstevens
- Archer 165 (23)**
Zebulon
NC Hwy 96 S.
1 Saturday & 3 Monday
M-Bobby R. Tutor
S-Larry G. Corbett
- Winston 167 (46)**
Winston-Salem
34 Miller Street
2 Monday
M-Charlie G. Pritchard
S-Charles D. Sheets, Jr.
- Blackmer 170 (62)**
Weaverville
70 College Street
2 Tuesday
M-Richard K. Garrison
S-Vann B. Gibbs, Jr.
- Buffalo 172 (31)**
Sanford
602 W. Main Street
1 & 3 Monday
M-Aubrey L. Felix Hall
S-Jonathan M. Kelly
- Williams 176 (40)**
Cornelius
19416 Zion Street
1 & 3 Tuesday
M-Jake W. Williams, Jr.
S-Raymond H. Heath, Jr.
- Carthage 181 (31)**
Carthage
302 Saunders Street
2 & 4 Tuesday
M-James R. Sullivan, Jr.
S-Johnny D. Frye
- Central Cross 187 (18)**
Spring Hope
581 North
1 & 3 Thursday
M-Jay A. Stancil
S-Larry M. Walker
- Balfour 188 (37)**
Asheboro
632 Sunset Avenue
1 & 3 Monday
M-William H. Russell
S-Frederick C. Smith
- Fair Bluff 190 (13)**
Fair Bluff
Riverside Drive
1 Tuesday
M-Ronnie M. Hinson
S-Russell Meares
- Granite 191 (27)**
Clayton
621 Bolling Street
2 & 4 Tuesday
M-David G. Statterfield, Jr.
S-John A. Ferrell
- Cary 198 (26)**
Cary
1142 East Maynard Road
1 & 3 Monday
M-Charles F. English
S-Carson A. Clippard, Jr.
- Cleveland 202 (56)**
Shelby
1436 E. Marion Street
1 Thursday
M-Donald E. Conn
S-Roy D. Jackson
- Roanoke 203 (20)**
Weldon
112 Sycamore Street
2 & 4 Monday
M-John W. Riddle, Jr.
S-Joseph K. Turner, Jr.
- Long Creek 205 (42)**
Huntersville
8500 Mt. Holly-Huntersville
Road
2 Monday
M-Charles G. Bugess
S-Chad R. Irons
- Mingo 206 (15)**
Dunn
Not available
1 Monday
M-James B. Hardison
S-Dalma L. Core

- Lebanon 207 (13)**
Whiteville
114 Pecan Street
1 Tuesday & 3 Thursday
M-James H. Hinson
S-John J. Norosky
- Mount Olive 208 (16)**
Mount Olive
Breazeale Avenue
1 & 3 Tuesday
M-Tony L. Winstead
S-Larry H. Graham
- Eno 210 (32)**
Durham
1416 Watts Street
1 & 3 Tuesday
M-Eugene H. Pope
S-Herbert C. Lyon
- Thomasville 214 (45)**
Thomasville
720 Salem Street
1 Tuesday
M-Timothy H. Hedrick
S-Alan R. Everhart
- Catawba Valley 217 (57)**
Morganton
College Street
2 Thursday
M-Billy D. Poteat
S-Kenneth C. Hamrick
- William G. Hill 218 (25)**
Raleigh
1520 Caswell Street
2 Monday
M-Douglas A. Cifers
S-Donnie R. Bissette
- Olin 226 (51)**
Olin
590 Olin Road
2 & 4 Thursday
M-Van D. Galliher
S-Calvin G. York
- Henderson 229 (21)**
Henderson
401 Brodie Street
1 & 3 Tuesday
M-Nathan L. Lewis
S-Isaac H. Williamson, Jr.
- Corinthian 230 (18)**
Rocky Mount
1700 Winstead Avenue
2 & 4 Thursday
M-John A. Dinan
S-Thadecus C. High
- William T. Bain 231 (24)**
Raleigh
9433 Ten Ten Road
1 Monday
M-William M. Rue
S-Charles L. Walton, Sr.
- Lenoir 233 (11)**
La Grange
310 S. Caswell Street
1 Thursday
M-David A. Letchworth
S-Joseph W. Wilson, III
- Mystic Tie 237 (59)**
Marion
205 S. Main Street
1 & 3 Monday
M-Kenneth A. Holloway
S-Jesse Glen Henline
- Wiccacon 240 (2)**
Harrellsville
Not available
2 & 4 Thursday
M-Thomas G. Pearce, Sr.
S-Emitt C. Fuller
- Grifton 243 (5)**
Grifton
108 Gordon Street
1 Wednesday
M-Henry R. Lewis, Jr.
S-Joseph F. Price
- Monroe 244 (39)**
Monroe
520 E. Franklin Street
1 Thursday
M-Michael R. Medlin
S-Billy W. Canupp, Jr.
- Catawba 248 (53)**
Newton
22 N. College Avenue
2 & 4 Tuesday
2 Tuesday December
M-Curtis R. Sharpe, Jr.
S-Robert W. Jarrett
- Pythagoras 249 (10)**
Southport
201 E. Nash Street
3 Tuesday
M-Steven M. Stewart
S-John A. Richards
- Lee 253 (51)**
Taylorsville
108 Second Avenue, SW
2 & 4 Monday
M-John C. Smith
S-Gordon C. Knight
- Kenly 257 (27)**
Kenly
500 W. Second Street
1 & 3 Tuesday
M-Ted M. Sherrod
S-Thomas R. Jackson, Jr.
- Fuquay 258 (26)**
Fuquay-Varina
338 S. Main Street
1 & 3 Tuesday
M-Jeremy M. Morgan
S-Horace L. Ausley
- Waynesville 259 (63)**
Waynesville
508 Marshall Street
1 Friday
M-Bobby Gene Allen
S-John W. Purvis
- Excelsior 261 (40)**
Charlotte
3900 Litchfield Road
1 Monday; 2 Monday
September
M-James A. Ploger
S-David C. Carriker
- Hibriten 262 (57)**
Lenoir
106 N. Main Street
1 Thursday
M-Todd E. Bumgarner
S-Wayne D. Walker
- Gaston 263 (55)**
Dallas
S. College Street
2 Monday
M-Jeffrey M. Falls
S-Bobby G. Whisnant, Sr.
- Farmington 265 (48)**
Farmington
149 Cemetery Road
2 Monday
M-Francis E. Hunter
S-James C. Howard
Dunn's Rock 267 (80)
Brevard
211 E. Main Street
2 & 4 Thursday
M-Timothy C. Waldrop
M-Tearle J. Conner
- Tabasco 271 (34)**
Gibsonville
207 E. Main Street
1 & 3 Tuesday
M-Alton L. Baker
S-Gary L. Brant
- Bingham 272 (34)**
Mebane
307 E. Center Street
1 & 3 Monday
M-Sidney L. Flake, Jr.
S-Albert R. Thompson, II
- Beaver Dam 276 (39)**
Marshville
Corner Hwy 74 E. and E. Main
Street
2 Tuesday
M-Douglas B. High, Jr.
S-Douglas E. Honeycutt
- Green Level 277 (26)**
Apex
8427 Green Level Church
Road
1 Tuesday
M-George S. Bickel
S-Michael T. Prince

- Rehoboth 279 (12)**
Rose Hill
Not available
2 Monday
M-Luther T. Kissner, III
S-Isaac T. Perkins
- Wake Forest 282 (22)**
Wake Forest
220 Wait Street
2 & 4 Tuesday
2 Tuesday December
M-Louis F. McAlister
S-Horace L. Macon
Eureka 283 (44)
Chine Grove
604 E. Church Street
1 & 3 Monday
M-William Lee Comer
S-Jerry E. Edwards
- Greenville 284 (5)**
Greenville
1104 Charles Street
1 & 3 Monday
M-Herbert W. Wheless
S-Douglas G. Bostick
- Salem 289 (46)**
Winston-Salem
34 Miller Street
1 Tuesday
M-David C. Simmons
S-Clifford T. Franke
- French Broad 292 (62)**
Marshall
Main Street
1 Monday
M-Wayne E. Nagle
S-William A. Ricker
- Vance 293 (62)**
Weaverville
39 Antioch Church Road
3 Monday
M-Anthony M. Ingle
S-David R. Stewart
- Atlantic 294 (4)**
Swanquarter
Court House Square
1 & 3 Thursday
M-Danny Lester Simpson
S-Hal G. Swindell
- Stonewall 296 (5)**
Robersonville
20013 NC 903
1 & 3 Monday
M-George F. Matthews, Jr.
S-James R. Carson
- Harmony 299 (51)**
Harmony
143 E. Memorial Hwy
2 Monday
M-David B. Cope
S-William J. Campbell
- Aurora 300 (6)**
Aurora
W. Main Street
2 & 4 Monday
M-Charles L. Smith
S-Garland L. Lewis
- Clay 301 (65)**
Hayesville
Sanderson Street
3 Monday
M-Noel C. Galloway
S-William G. Burrell
- Lillington 302 (28)**
Lillington
Not available
2 & 4 Monday
M-Terry E. Byrd
S-William G. Patterson
- Pleasant Hill 304 (11)**
Deep Run
4545 Mark N Smith Road
2 & 4 Thursday
M-Richard C. Stroud, Jr.
S-Oscar D. Tyndall
- Laurinburg 305 (30)**
Laurinburg
12881 Woodrun Drive
1 & 3 Tuesday
1 Tuesday April & December
M-Kelvin B. Howell
S-Billy E. Stout
- Raeford 306 (30)**
Raeford
900 East Palmer Avenue
2 & 4 Tuesday
M-Joseph N. Speight
S-Robert E. Vaughn, II
New Lebanon 314 (1)
South Mills
449 Crooked Run Road
2 Tuesday
M-Robert L. Bass, Jr.
S-W. Frank Wood, Sr.
- Eureka 317 (1)**
Elizabeth City
Hughes Blvd.
Every Tuesday
1 Tuesday June-August
M-Donald R. Ballance
S-Julian H. Copeland
- Wilmington 319 (10)**
Wilmington
2910 College Street
1 Tuesday
M-Hovie W. Pope, Jr.
S-Frank G. Hickman
- Selma 320 (27)**
Selma
405 North Pollock Street
1 & 3 Tuesday
M-Warren D. Shepherd
S-Harry E. Greene
- Granite 322 (47)**
Mount Airy
212 Franklin Street
3 Tuesday
M-Barry W. Boyles
S-Stephen C. Gross
- Mattamuskeet 328 (3)**
Engelhard
Hwy 264 West
2 & 4 Wednesday
M-
S-Mark A. Harris
- Bayboro 331 (6)**
Bayboro
108 Vandemere Road
1 & 3 Tuesday
M-Miles H. Purser
S-Johnny W. Rice
Fairview 339 (56)
Kings Mountain
806 Landing Street
2 Monday
M-Alvin E. Yarbro, Jr.
S-Richard L. Williams
- Harmony 340 (16)**
Pikeville
108 South Railroad Street
2 & 4 Thursday
M-Randy L. Murphy
S-Elliott R. Futrell
- Hickory 343 (57)**
Hickory
30 16th Avenue, SE
1 & 3 Monday
M-Howard W. Walker, Sr.
S-Clayton E. Rawn
- Numa F. Reid 344 (45)**
High Point
443 S. Main Street
2 Monday
M-Harry M. Rinehardt
S-Donnie R. Pugh
- Stanly 348 (38)**
Albemarle
230 N. Main Street
1 & 3 Tuesday
M-Jeffery A. Chance
S-James A. Burris
- Durham 352 (32)**
Durham
1811 Palmer Street
2 & 4 Tuesday
2 Tuesday June, July, Aug.,
Dec.
M-Timothy M. Williams
S-Cecil R. Lee
- Fallston 356 (56)**
Fallston
102 Kendrick Street
2 Monday
M-John C. Wehunt, II
S-John W. Self

- Bakersville 357 (58)**
Bakersville
Hwy 226 N
1 & 3 Thursday
M-Christopher A. Campbell
S-Vincent P. Bonaminio
- East LaPorte 358 (64)**
Cullowhee
Hwy 107
2 & 4 Thursday
M-Ronald G. Story
S-John R. Joachim
- Mount Vernon 359 (6)**
Oriental
602 Ragan Road
2 & 4 Tuesday
M-Jay A. Collins
S-Willard T. Huff
- Snow 363 (49)**
Boone
240 Temple Drive
1 & 3 Monday
M-Richard L. Elmore
S-John F. Sweitzer
- Gastonia 369 (55)**
Gastonia
214 South Street
2 Friday
M-James G. Brown
S-Richard J. Clanton
- Ashler 373 (49)**
Deep Gap
Hwy 427
2 & 4 Monday
M-Donald E. Stewart
S-Elster H. Greene, Jr.
- Campbell 374 (52)**
Troutman
130 E. Church Street
2 & 4 Thursday
M-Samuel A. Brown, Jr.
S-Joseph H. Brantley
- State Line 375 (56)**
Grover
115 Mulberry Street
2 Tuesday
M-William R. Peeler
S-R. Fain Hambright
- Youngsville 377 (22)**
Youngsville
Not available
3 Thursday
M-Dallas T. Glover
S-Harold A. Strother
- Seaboard 378 (19)**
Seaboard
301 S. Main Street
1 Monday
M-Paul M. Flythe
S-Reid V. Harris, II
- Coharie 379 (15)**
Salemberg
4176 Honeycutt Road
2 & 4 Thursday
M-William Keith Naylor
S-Tommy W. Tew
- Granville 380 (22)**
Wake Forest
686 Woodland Church Road
2 Thursday
M-Darin L. Ray
S-Joseph P. Price, Sr.
- Forest City 381 (59)**
Forest City
17 Wilkie Street
2 & 4 Tuesday
M-Miles F. Gunnin
S-Dewey H. Webb
- Jefferson Penn 384 (35)**
Reidsville
110 N. Main Street
2 & 4 Tuesday
M-James R. Wheeler
S-David J. Walker
- Pigeon River 386 (63)**
Canton
382 Champion Drive
2 Thursday
M-Richard J. Gould, Sr.
S-Gary D. Teague
- Kedron 387 (60)**
Hendersonville
229 Fifth Avenue W.
1 & 3 Monday
3 Monday September
M-Sam S. Settle
S-Charles E. Holcomb
- Friendship 388 (56)**
Boiling Springs
722 McBrayer Homestead
Road
4 Monday
2 Monday December
M-Joseph D. Brooks
S-Bobby D. Willis
- Copeland 390 (47)**
Dobson
156 Bray Ford Road
2 Thursday
December 27
M-Jackson S. McCormick
S-Christopher J. Mooney
- Lebanon 391 (29)**
Hope Mills
2222 Golfview Drive
1 Thursday
M-William M. Fulk
S-E. Gerald Halliburton
- Orient 395 (10)**
Wilmington
1312 Shipyard Blvd.
1 Thursday
M-Evangelos J. Fragos
S-Richard J. Bryant, II
- Bald Creek 397 (62)**
Swiss
US Hwy 19E
2 Thursday
M-Clayborn H. Carroll
S-Robert M. Swann
- Joppa 401 (59)**
Old Fort
Catawba Avenue
2 & 4 Monday
M-Clifford M. Boone
S-Joseph G. Swann, Jr.
- Siler City 403 (31)**
Siler City
114 S. Third Avenue
1 & 3 Thursday
M-Robert P. Patrick
S-William H. Elder
- Denton 404 (45)**
Denton
Corner S. Main St. and Peacock
Ave.
1 & 3 Tuesday
M-Eddie N. Morrow
S-M. Kirby Matthews
- Ocean 405 (8)**
Morehead City
204 S. 18th Street
2 & 4 Tuesday
M-Larry T. Lewis
S-Ray L. Gray
- North Wilkesboro 407 (50)**
North Wilkesboro
Temple Street
2 Monday
M-Ralph A. Gambill
S-Michael D. Royal
- University 408 (32)**
Chapel Hill
1211 East Franklin Street
3 Monday
M-William S. Aldridge, III
S-Willard G. Campbell
- Bula 409 (34)**
Burlington
1307 S. Main Street
2 & 4 Monday
2 Monday December
M-Brian K. Johnson
S-Richard S. Emerson
- Bailey 411 (17)**
Bailey
6140 Main Street
2 & 4 Monday
M-Roger D. Hensley
S-Horace M. Meacombs, Jr.
- Henry F. Grainger 412 (33)**
Oxford
105 W. College Street
3 Tuesday
M-Jack Watkins
S-William B. Bartholomew

James A. Johnson 413 (22)
 Louisville
 Jolly Street & Bickett Blvd.
 2 & 4 Tuesday
 2 Tuesday December
 M-Edgerton L. Watson, Jr.
 S-Burt H. Pearson, III

Maxton 417 (14)
 Maxton
 123 S. Florence Street
 1 Monday
 M-Gary A. Blue
 S-William A. McRae, II

Pendleton 418 (19)
 Pendleton
 Britton Road
 1 & 3 Thursday
 M-
 S-Brian K. Lassiter

Harmon 420 (48)
 Yadkinville
 Ray T. Moore Road
 3 Thursday
 M-Lawrence W. Getgen
 S-James W. Jones, Jr.

Sparta 423 (49)
 Sparta
 125 E. Doughton
 1 & 3 Thursday
 M-Allan D. Shaw
 S-Robert M. Haas

Montgomery 426 (65)
 Ranger
 180 Wingate Road
 1 Tuesday
 M-James O. Murphy
 S-Arthur West

Oconee 427 (64)
 Bryson City
 Clifton Avenue
 1 & 3 Monday
 M-William R. Howell
 S-Roy O. Stiles, Jr.

Stokesdale 428 (38)
 Stokesdale
 8420 Ellisboro Road
 1 & 3 Tuesday
 M-Archie L. McGee
 S-Ray M. Comer

Seaside 429 (9)
 Swansboro
 72 Old Hammocks Road
 2 & 4 Monday
 M-Stephen H. Smith, Sr.
 S-David J. Gillis

Relief 431 (28)
 Benson
 S. Lee Street
 2 & 4 Tuesday
 M-William G. Ireland
 S-Timothy Raynor

Piney Creek 432 (49)
 Piney Creek
 Not available
 1 & 3 Tuesday
 M-Ronnie G. Hale
 S-David C. Carpenter

Vanceboro 433 (7)
 Vanceboro
 630 Farm Life Avenue
 2 & 4 Tuesday
 M-John H. Lilly
 S-Milton R. Wiggins

West Bend 434 (48)
 Lewisville
 6305 Shallowford Road
 1 & 3 Tuesday
 M-Robah L. Snyder, III
 S-Clarence O. Huie

Blue Ridge 435 (64)
 Highlands
 Not available
 3 Thursday
 M-
 S-Clemmie L. Henry

Biscoe 437 (38)
 Biscoe
 5815 Old Troy Road
 2 & Last Friday
 M-Paul R. McLeod
 S-Donnie R. Bostick

Marble Springs 439 (65)
 Marble
 Not available
 2 Tuesday
 M-Audy L. James
 S-Bobby R. Welch

Marietta 444 (37)
 Ramseur
 735 Liberty Street
 2 Friday
 M-Michael R. Cox, Sr.
 S-Wallace E. Jarrell

Biltmore 446 (61)
 Asheville
 St. Paul & Summit Street
 Every Tuesday
 M-Larry L. Bishop
 S-Clay E. Sorrells

Enfield 447 (20)
 Enfield
 137 Railroad Street, SE
 1 & 3 Monday
 M-Charles C. Couch
 S-Julius G. Woody, Jr.

Clyde 453 (63)
 Clyde
 69 Main Street
 2 Tuesday
 M-Ernest M. Bueker, Jr.
 S-John R. Terrell

Elkin 454 (47)
 Elkin
 121 Quailtree Lane State
 Road
 2 Tuesday
 M-Kevin K. Carter
 S-Edward R. Snyder, III

Dillsboro 459 (64)
 Sylva
 223 Wilkes Crescent Street
 1 & 3 Thursday
 M-Norman D. Stephens
 S-James S. Mason, Jr.

Cliffside 460 (59)
 Cliffside
 Main Street
 2 & 4 Monday
 M-Jack H. Huskey
 S-Ransome H. Epley, Jr.

Matthews 461 (41)
 Matthews
 184 S. Trade Street
 2 Thursday
 M-Barry K. Abernathy
 S-Edward M. Noles

South Fork 462 (54)
 Cramerton
 142 Eighth Avenue
 2 Tuesday
 M-James D. Price
 S-Billy R. Eckard

Currituck 463 (1)
 Coinjock
 Not available
 2 Monday
 M-Henry Donski
 S-Jerry T. Dowdy

Grassy Knob 471 (51)
 Union Grove
 2772 West Memorial Hwy (NC
 901)
 4 Friday
 M-John W. Kahl
 S-David R. Millsaps

Sonoma 472 (63)
 Canton
 62 Birdsong Trail
 1 Thursday
 M-Stanley G. Henson
 S-Hugh K. Terrell, Jr.

Lexington 473 (45)
 Lexington
 200 S. State Street
 2 & 4 Thursday
 M-Ervin W. Allen, Jr.
 S-Marshall N. Goss, Jr.

St. Pauls 474 (14)
 St. Pauls
 314 N. Fifth Street
 1 Tuesday
 M-Weldon D. Robinson
 S-Anderson H. Jackson

Grimesland 475 (5)
Grimesland
7525 Pitt Street (Hwy 33)
1 Tuesday
M-Paul D. Banta
S-Weldon E. McLawhorn, Jr.

Rainbow 479 (8)
Arapahoe
8006 NC 306S
1 & 3 Monday
M-Henry T. Banks
S-David G. Bell

Saluda 482 (60)
Saluda
Ozone Drive
1 & 3 Thursday
M-Stephen J. Doten
S-Harold B. Phillips

Traphill 483 (50)
Traphill
Austin Benham Road
1 & 3 Tuesday
M-Phillip R. Church
S-J. Michael May

Southern Pines 484 (30)
Southern Pines
40 Oak Hills Road
1 & 3 Monday
M-George W. Lamb
S-Louis B. Creveling

Lawndale 486 (56)
Lawndale
Piedmont Drive
2 Thursday
M-Joe D. Peeler
S-Joshua E. Murrow, Jr.

Rich Square 488 (19)
Rich Square
306 E. Jackson Street
2 Thursday
M-Richard T. Spradlin, Jr.
S-Joseph W. Harrington, Jr.

Linville 489 (58)
Newland
Not available
2 & 4 Thursday
M-Larry D. Sudderth
S-Robert W. Galbraith

Hominy 491 (61)
Candler
Not available
2 Tuesday
M-Terry L. Gentry
S-David C. Clontz

Thomas M. Holt 492 (34)
Graham
Johnson Street
1 & 3 Thursday
M-Roy H. Duffer
S-Harvey T. Hogan, Jr.

Pilot 493 (47)
Pilot Mountain
689 Key Street
2 Monday
M-Billy G. Brim, Jr.
S-Paul W. Shelton, Jr.

Rockingham 495 (30)
Rockingham
1107 Fayetteville Road
1 & 3 Monday
M-Lewis C. Smith, Jr.
S-Douglas H. Smith

Mooreville 496 (52)
Mooreville
Institute Street
2 & 4 Tuesday
M-David W. Smith
S-Paul E. Cook

Royal Hart 497 (20)
Littleton
US 158 W., McPherson
Complex
2 & 4 Monday
M-Harlan J. Gardiner
S-Robert A. Moseley

Ayden 498 (5)
Ayden
East Third Street
3 Tuesday
M-Spurgeon W. Venters
S-Delano R. Wilson

Creedmoor 499 (33)
Creedmoor
Main Street
2 & 4 Monday
2 Monday December
M-Donald E. Johnson
S-James N. Matthews

Raleigh 500 (25)
Raleigh
1520 Caswell Street
3 Tuesday
M-Roy H. Beasley
S-Gene B. Jordan

Red Springs 501 (14)
Red Springs
301 Peachtree Street
2 & 4 Thursday
M-Philip W. Smith
S-Douglas J. Shemenski

Cookville 502 (57)
Vale
7485 Hwy 10
1 Tuesday
M-Michael R. Warlick
S-Pinkney E. Hull

Cherryville 505 (55)
Cherryville
S. Mulberry Street
1 Monday
M-William L. Tucker
S-U. Jerry Barrett

Belhaven 509 (4)
Belhaven
East Street
2 & 4 Tuesday
M-Terry V. Sparrow, Jr.
S-Bryan K. Davis

Whetstone 515 (55)
Bessemer City
W. Penn Avenue
4 Tuesday
3 Tuesday December
M-Thomas S. Canipe
S-Terry W. Shiver

Farmville 517 (5)
Farmville
103 Grimmersberg Street
2 & 4 Thursday
1 Thursday Nov. & Dec.
M-John M. Howell
S-William E. Wooten

Widow's Son 519 (20)
Roanoke Rapids
Roanoke Ave. & 3rd Street
2 & 4 Thursday
M-Charles W. Baird
S-Jerry L. Moseley

Fairfield 520 (4)
Fairfield
7760 Piney Woods Road
1 & 3 Tuesday
M-Vincent B. Berry
S-Paul D. Norris

Manteo 521 (3)
Manteo
101 Hwy 64/264
2 & 4 Monday
M-William A. Duvall
S-Carlisle N. Davis

Rodgers 525 (17)
Middlesex
Not available
3 Monday
M-Larry D. Richardson
S-Jimmy H. Brantley

Lucama 527 (17)
Lucama
US 301 South
2 & 4 Thursday
M-George W. Watson
S-Emory P. Honeycutt

Fairmont 528 (14)
Fairmont
709 Gertrude Street
3 Monday
M-James F. Wilkerson
S-William C. McGirt, Jr.

Andrews 529 (65)
Andrews
56 Locust Road
1 Monday
M-Charles S. Freel
S-Paul D. Parker

- Joppa 530 (41)**
Charlotte
426 N. Sharon Amity
1 Friday
M-John P. Kieronski
S-Stewart F. deWitt
- Hamlet 532 (30)**
Hamlet
307 Main Street
2 & 4 Thursday
2 Thursday Nov. & Dec.
M-John S. Boggan
S-William P. Horne, Jr.
- Camp Call 534 (56)**
Shelby
3801 Polkville Road
3 Monday
M-James D. Glover
S-Thomas E. Covington
- Hollis 535 (59)**
Hollis
450 W. E. Padgett Road
2 Thursday
M-Marvin C. Melton
S-Danny F. Wells
- Corinthian 542 (36)**
Greensboro
426 W. Market Street
2 & 4 Monday
M-Edward H. Marsh
S-Hugh L. McLaurin, III
- Spencer 543 (44)**
Spencer
114 Fourth Street
2 & 4 Tuesday
M-Reginald J. Hall, Jr.
S-Junius E. Corriher
- Mount Holly 544 (54)**
Mount Holly
302 W. Charlotte Avenue
1 & 3 Monday
M-Phillip D. Sparrow
S-Richard B. Lawing
- Roman Eagle 550 (30)**
Aberdeen
11611 US 15-501
1 & 3 Thursday
M-Luther J. Camp
S-William K. Styers
- Glenville 551 (64)**
Glenville
4625 Hwy 107
2 Tuesday
M-Broward P. Davis
S-Curley M. Potts
- Revolution 552 (36)**
Greensboro
802 16th Street
1 & 3 Thursday
M-Howell G. Wagner
S-William D. Maness
- Vesper 554 (58)**
Spruce Pine
637 Oak Avenue
1 & 3 Thursday
M-
S-Randy L. Ramsey
- Elise 555 (31)**
Robbins
470 Hwy 705 S
1 & 3 Tuesday
M-Henry B. Craven
S-Raymond L. Vaughn, Jr.
- Neill S. Stewart 556 (28)**
Erwin
Masonic Drive
2 & 4 Tuesday
M-William D. Williams
S-Herbert E. Holder
- Ararat 558 (47)**
Ararat
Ararat Road
2 Friday
M-
S-Ira L. Armstrong
- Swannanoa 561 (61)**
Swannanoa
Whitson Avenue
1 Thursday
M-David L. Perkins
S-Carl J. Hogue
- Waxhaw 562 (39)**
Waxhaw
N.W. Main Street
1 Tuesday
M-Daniel C. Kerley
S-Richard E. Shields, Jr.
- Tabor 563 (13)**
Tabor City
600 E. Fifth Street
2 & 4 Tuesday
M-Charles D. Bullock
S-Herman W. Stevens
- Richlands 564 (9)**
Richlands
126 Huffman Town Road
1 & 3 Thursday
M-James R. Beddard
S-Robert E. Keene
- Wendell 565 (23)**
Wendell
27 N. Main Street
2 & 4 Tuesday
M-James H. Baker, Jr.
S-John McClelland, Jr.
- Doric 568 (7)**
New Bern
2100 S. Glenburnie Avenue
2 & 4 Friday
M-Mark J. Dunham
S-Clayton E. Burch
- Snow Creek 571 (51)**
Statesville
558 Dobson Farm Road
1 & 3 Monday
M-Alfred W. Johnson
S-James A. Dobson, Jr.
- Mount Pleasant 573 (50)**
Wilkesboro
206 Champion-Mt. Pleasant
Road
2 Thursday
M-Stephen C. Cabe
S-James A. Cashman
- Andrew Jackson 576 (44)**
Salisbury
401 N. Fulton Street
1 & 3 Thursday
M-John W. Jones
S-Robert D. Sims
- Meadow Branch 578 (39)**
Wingate
211 S. Stewart Street
3 Tuesday
M-Joseph C. Moore
S-Bobby W. Ford
- Casar 579 (56)**
Casar
5801 Casar Road
1 Thursday
M-Paul G. Faini
S-Kenneth R. Beam
- Ionic 583 (7)**
Cove City
N. Main Street
2 & 4 Tuesday
M-James A. Zirnheld
S-Benjamin F. Grady, Jr.
- Apex 584 (26)**
Apex
408 E. Williams Street
2 Monday
M-John H. McLaughlin, II
S-James L. Dority
- Roseboro 585 (15)**
Roseboro
306 NE Railroad Street
1 & 3 Thursday
M-Winford R. Hales
S-Thomas C. Gallagher
- Bethel 589 (5)**
Bethel
108 S. Main Street
1 & 3 Thursday
M-Dennis A. Roberson, Jr.
S-James W. Futrell
- Lowell 590 (54)**
Lowell
122 N. Main Street
1 & 3 Tuesday
3 Tuesday July
M-Bradley R. Rankin
S-Paul Waters, Jr.

- Maiden 592 (53)**
Maiden
18 W. Main Street
2 Monday
M-Jimmie R. Beal
S-Bobby E. Sherrill
- Stony Point 593 (51)**
Stony Point
Ruritan Park Road
2 & 4 Tuesday
M-David W. Godfrey
S-Jerry L. Durmire
- Ashe 594 (49)**
West Jefferson
104 S. Third Street
2 & 4 Tuesday
M-Edward D. Paisley
S-James O. Hartman
- Wallace 595 (12)**
Wallace
407 South Norwood Street
1 & 3 Monday
M-William L. Hussey, Jr.
S-William H. Browder
- Waccamaw 596 (13)**
Riegelwood
Hwy 87
2 & 4 Monday
M-Gary M. Merrill
S-Lee Vick Connor, Jr.
- Cranberry 598 (58)**
Elk Park
195 Main Street
1 & 3 Tuesday
M-Steve W. Gouge
S-Billy C. Burleson
- Queen City 602 (18)**
Rocky Mount
1700 S. Winstead Avenue
1 & 3 Thursday
M-Robert S. Flowers
S-James R. Thompson, III
- Jeff L. Nelson 605 (60)**
Tryon
Freedom Hill Road
2 & 4 Monday
M-Raphael M. Foy
S-Kirtland Flynn, Jr.
- Riverside 606 (53)**
Catawba
102 N. Main Street
2 & 4 Monday
M-Cecil H. Cook, Jr.
S-Jacob R. Abernathy, Jr.
- Chadbourn 607 (13)**
Chadbourn
Strawberry Blvd.
2 & 4 Tuesday
M-George W. Baysdin
S-Thomas T. Ward
- Zebulon 609 (23)**
Zebulon
111 E. Horton Street
1 Tuesday
M-Rodney L. Coberly
S-Barna O. Wilder
- Atkinson 612 (10)**
Atkinson
Main Street
4 Monday
M-Chris Lee Lewis
S-Alfred G. Arnett
- Home 613 (16)**
Fremont
Goldsboro Street
2 Monday
M-Leland K. Pate
S-William D. Flowers
- Round Peak 616 (47)**
Mt. Airy
1365 Old Lowgap Road
1 Friday
M-Ronnie C. Sprinkle
S-Jason S. Haas
- St. Patrick's 617 (27)**
Princeton
Not available
1 & 3 Wednesday
M-Everette N. Epps
S-Sidney A. Wellons, III
- Union 618 (43)**
Midland
12105 Highway 601
2 Monday
M-Stephen A. White
S-Darrell E. Cline
- John H. Mills 624 (21)**
Epsom
Highway 39
2 & 4 Thursday
M-Leon N. Falkner
S-Jerry L. Stegall
- Cannon Memorial 626 (43)**
Kannapolis
704 S. Main Street
1 & 3 Tuesday
M-Grady P. James
S-Kenneth L. Davis, Sr.
- Belmont 627 (54)**
Belmont
201 South Main Street
2 Monday
M-Charles R. Silvers
S-Larry E. Watts
- Walnut Cove 629 (35)**
Walnut Cove
810 Summit Street
1 & 3 Tuesday
M-Robert E. Brinkley
S-S. Ray Ashby
- Francis S. Packard 630 (21)**
Norlina
Onie Road
2 & 4 Thursday
M-Dwight W. Pearce
S-Reynolds T. Perkinson
- Goldsboro 634 (16)**
Goldsboro
1002 North Berkley Boulevard
2 & 4 Monday
M-John J. Lavin
S-Bradley W. Carmichael
- Yadkin Falls 637 (38)**
Badin
34 Falls Road
1 & 3 Monday
M-Paul Allen Thompson
S-Wayne R. Rummage
- Proctorville 643 (14)**
Proctorville
Main & Pine Street
2 Monday
M-James E. Britt
S-Jesse L. Harper
- Bladen 646 (13)**
Elizabethtown
Cypress Street
2 & 4 Monday
M-Lonnie Harris
S-Horace R. Wyatt
- John A. Nichols 650 (61)**
Asheville
80 Broadway
2 Thursday
M-James R. Ingle
S-Marcus W. Arrowood, Jr.
- Elberta 654 (30)**
West End
Hwy 73
1 & 3 Tuesday
M-Douglas E. Macleod
S-Greyard B. Lamm
- Guilford 656 (36)**
Greensboro
426 W. Market Street
1 & 3 Monday
M-Terry James Cox
S-Scott F. Fancett
- Keller Memorial 657 (44)**
Rockwell
Not available
2 & 4 Monday
M-Bradley C. Hardister
S-Robert C. Peeler
- Beulaville 658 (12)**
Beulaville
506 West Botic Street
1 & 3 Tuesday
M-Clarence G. Thigpen, Jr.
S-Douglas A. Turner

Black Mountain 663 (61)
Black Mountain
105 Rock Church Street
1 Monday
M-Charles D. Reese
S-Carl R. Patton

Garland 664 (15)
Garland
471 S. Ingold Avenue
4 Monday
M-John V. Matthews, Jr.
S-Charles T. Cashwell

West Asheville 665 (61)
Asheville
22 Brevard Road
1 & 3 Monday
1 Monday October-March
M-Edward A. Lemon
S-Jack R. Barnett

Fort Bragg 667 (29)
Spring Lake
411 Hwy 210 N.
1 Tuesday
M-William F. Smith
S-James R. Nicholson

Holland Memorial 668 (55)
Gastonia
South Street
2 Thursday
M-Gerald M. Sosebee
S-John W. Waldrop, Jr.

Kernersville 669 (46)
Kernersville
700 S. Main Street
1 Monday
M-Neal W. Nelson
S-Stewart C. Hodges

Lovelady 670 (57)
Valdese
E. Main Street
2 Monday
M-Wendell M. Powell
S-Calvin L. Huffman

Robbinsville 672 (65)
Robbinsville
Church Street
2 Tuesday
M-Dennis J. Sawyer
S-Jessie B. Aldridge

Spindale 673 (59)
Spindale
101 Davis Street
1 & 3 Monday
M-Jack L. Conner
S-Robert F. Atchley

Acacia 674 (45)
High Point
443 S. Main Street
1 Thursday
M-Robert E. Williams
S-George B. Hughey

Washington 675 (4)
Washington
111 E. Fifth Street
1 & 3 Monday
M-Thurman Mayo
S-Frederick M. Mallison, Jr.

Temple 676 (42)
Charlotte
4740 Randolph Road
1 Thursday
M-Cecil V. Nance
S-Charles L. Davidson

Warsaw 677 (12)
Warsaw
601 E. College Street
2 & 4 Tuesday
M-Jeffrey Houston
S-Luther C. Jones, Jr.

Providence 678 (3)
Columbia
US 64 W
2 & 4 Thursday
M-Harry J. Kellett
S-J. Frank Furlough

Creasy Proctor 679 (29)
Fayetteville
2860 Village Drive
2 Tuesday
M-Rodger A. Smitley
S-E. Faison Williams, Jr.

Semper Fidelis 680 (9)
Jacksonville
727 Henderson Drive
2 & 4 Wednesday
M-Charles Treble
S-William C. Ginn

Piedmont 681 (45)
High Point
443 S. Main Street
3 Tuesday
M-Thomas M. Petty
S-Woodroe F. Haywood

Rolesville 683 (23)
Rolesville
Pulley Street
1 & 3 Thursday
M-Milton D. Rountree
S-William G. Arnold

Pioneer 685 (46)
Winston-Salem
34 Miller Street
2 Tuesday
M-Gilmer E. Collette, Jr.
S-Frank L. Collins

Angier 686 (28)
Angier
Hwy 55 South
2 & 4 Tuesday
M-Stanley C. Baas
S-Donald A. Bennett

Fellowship 687 (32)
Durham
Watts Street
2 & 4 Tuesday
M-Dalton R. Blackman
S-Horace H. Lane

Cherry Point 688 (8)
Havelock
110 Oakwood Drive
1 & 3 Thursday
M-John L. Everett
S-Deamous K. Lewis

Scotland Neck 689 (20)
Scotland Neck
Main Street
1 & 3 Tuesday
M-James E. Drake
S-Gene W. Todd

Mount Moriah 690 (52)
Statesville
302 E. Front Street
2 & 4 Monday
M-Scott E. Heath
S-Ralph M. Sisk

Renfro 691 (47)
Mount Airy
212 Franklin Street
3 Monday
M-Clayton E. King, Jr.
S-Alvis L. McAlexander

East Gate 692 (40)
Charlotte
426 N. Sharon Amity Road
1 Monday
M-John E. Wakefield
S-Clyde E. Bridges

Charles M. Setzer 693 (41)
Charlotte
4301 Stacy Boulevard
3 Monday
1 & 3 Monday December
M-Christopher M. Owsiany
S-Marvin B. Clifford

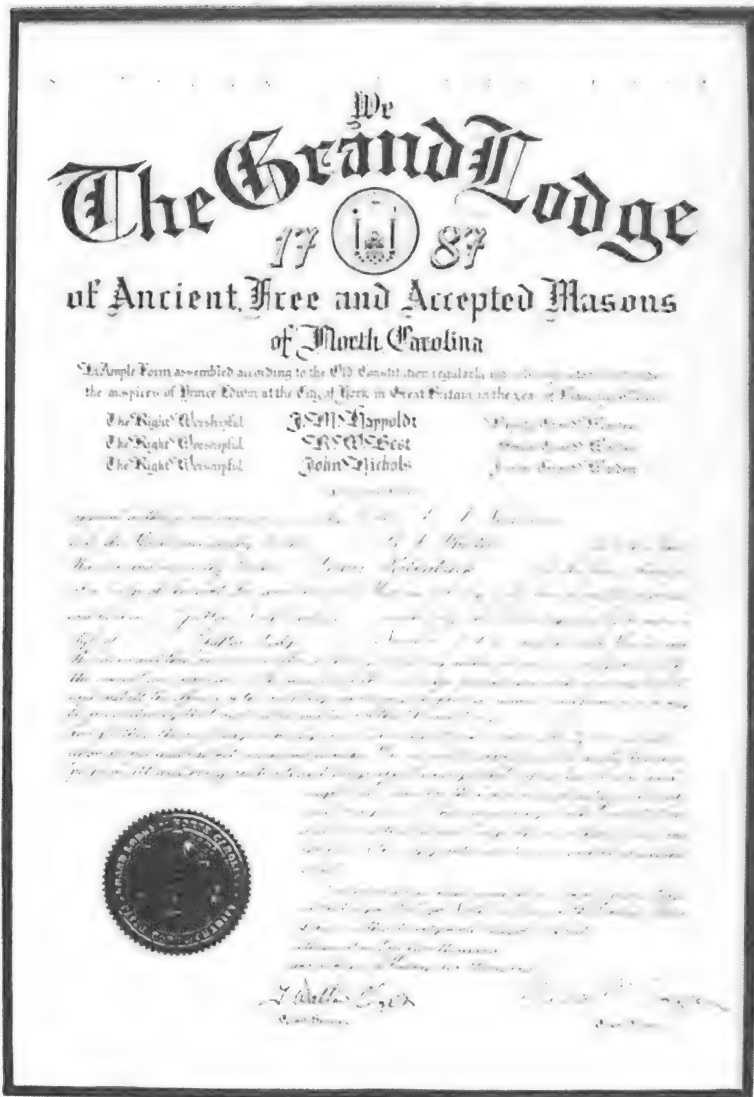
Gate City 694 (36)
Greensboro
426 West Market Street
2 & 4 Tuesday
M-Richard H. Greene
S-Gary R. Ballance

Allen-Graham 695 (43)
Kannapolis
702 S. Main Street
1 & 3 Thursday
M-Billy R. Linker
S-Randy C. Crainshaw

Memorial 696 (45)
Lexington
468 Central Avenue
1 & 3 Thursday
M-Robert L. Ingram
S-Douglas T. Sink

- Butner 697 (33)**
Butner
Not available
2 & 4 Tuesday
M-Robert W. Pearce
S-Edward W. Willis
- Cape Hatteras 698 (3)**
Buxton
Hwy 12, 1 mile south of
Lighthouse
2 & 4 Monday
M-Stephen H. Peele
S-Leven B. Fulcher, Jr.
- Asheboro 699 (37)**
Asheboro
325 Sunset Avenue
1 & 3 Thursday
M-Aaron W. Strider
S-Hall W. Hodgins
- Friendship 700 (41)**
Charlotte
4740 Randolph Road
2 Monday
M-James W. Slone
S-Harold A. Kessler
- Garner 701 (24)**
Garner
406 E. Main Street
2 & 4 Monday
M-William J. Setzer
S-John F. Tawney, Sr.
- St. Andrew 702 (40)**
Charlotte
4630 Tuckaseegee Road
1 Wednesday
M-Harvey W. Burgess
S-John D. Lowery
- Albemarle 703 (38)**
Albemarle
230 N. First Street
2 & 4 Monday
M-Charles G. Stephens, Jr.
S-Dewey R. Corriher
- King Solomon 704 (55)**
Gastonia
214 South Street
2 Tuesday
M-Timothy M. Daniels
S-Victor A. Willis
- Richard Caswell 705 (11)**
Kinston
805 Greenbriar Road
1 & 3 Tuesday
M-Elwood M. Moore
S-Ray H. Early, Jr.
- Newport 706 (8)**
Newport
235 Howard Blvd.
2 & 4 Monday
M-Johnnie D. Burtcher
S-Wray A. Thomas
- Forsyth 707 (46)**
Winston-Salem
34 Miller Street
2 Tuesday
M-John H. Alexander, IV
S-Wayne R. Conley
- Crown Point 708 (5)**
Greenville
1104 Charles Street
2 & 4 Thursday
2 Thursday December
M-Frank L. Brewer
S-Roy S. Selby
- Conover 709 (53)**
Conover
123 First Avenue
2 & 4 Thursday
M-Timothy E. Schwab
S-Fred L. Sherrill, Jr.
- Advance 710 (48)**
Advance
NC Highway 801S
2 Tuesday
M-Kenneth R. Henderson
S-Robert U. Blakeley
- Piedmont 711 (46)**
Winston-Salem
907 Mayford Drive
1 Thursday
M-Max W. Spach
S-Eugene H. Durham
- Wilson 712 (17)**
Wilson
2501 West Nash Street
2 & 4 Tuesday
M-Gary L. Langston
S-Donald R. Tomlinson
- Stanley 713 (54)**
Stanley
Morris Farm Road
3 Monday
M-Heath R. Jenkins
S-William T. Cope
- Liberty 714 (37)**
Liberty
135 North Asheboro Street
1 Thursday
M-Edward R. Smith
S-Roger L. Euliss
- Derita 715 (42)**
Charlotte
6300 Rumble Road
1 Friday
M-John F. Herrin, Jr.
S-Allen W. Scott
- Burnsville 717 (62)**
Burnsville
Robertson Street
3 Thursday
M-Larry Dean Snyder
S-Jerry K. Laws
- Troy 718 (38)**
Troy
Eldorado Street
2 & 4 Tuesday
M-Hubert V. Massengill
S-Daniel L. Morris
- Horse Creek 719 (80)**
Columbus
Court House Street
2 & 4 Tuesday
2 Tuesday December
M-Preston L. White
S-Morris K. Ruff
- Cabarrus 720 (43)**
Concord
51 Brumley Avenue
1 Thursday
M-Steven D. Hilton
S-Robert R. Stallings
- Burlington 721 (34)**
Burlington
1307 S. Main Street
1 & 3 Tuesday
1 Tuesday December
M-Gregory S. Lackey
S-Dale A. Partee
- King 722 (46)**
King
7850 Masonic Drive
3 Thursday
M-Richard G. McHone
S-Larry E. Oakley
- Winton 723 (2)**
Winton
201 Brickell Street
2 & 4 Tuesday
M-Richard M. Harrell
S-Harry B. Ward
- Berne 724 (7)**
New Bern
516 Hancock Street
1 & 3 Thursday
M-Richard H. Milman
S-Howard C. Cashwell
- Graham 725 (7)**
Township No. 7 New Bern
1307 Old Cherry Point Road
1 & 3 Tuesday
M-Oswald T. Chance, Jr.
S-George E. Herring
- Keystone 726 (41)**
Charlotte
184 S. Trade Street
2 Wednesday
M-Joseph M. Griffin
S-Donald L. Williams
- Shallotte 727 (13)**
Shallotte
5072 Main Street
2 & 4 Tuesday
M-Samuel B. Edwards, Jr.
S-Douglas L. Causey

- Twin County 729 (18)**
Rocky Mount
1700 S. Winstead Avenue
2 & 4 Monday
M-Samuel E. Johnson
S-Daniel W. Howell
- Stedman 730 (29)**
Stedman
Euclid Street
1 Monday
M-Gregory F. Wrench
S-James Hay
- John Huske Anderson 731 (29)**
Fayetteville
2860 Village Drive
2 Wednesday
M-Clyde F. Greene, Sr.
S-Theodore R. Brinson, Jr.
- Bush Hill 732 (37)**
Archdale
300 Goodman Street
2 Tuesday
M-Randall L. Johnson
S-Gerald W. Underwood, Jr.
- Stump Sound 733 (9)**
Sneads Ferry
Charles Creek Road
2 & 4 Tuesday
M-Sperby M. Piner, Jr.
S-Thomas W. McCree, Jr.
- William Pitt 734 (5)**
Greenville
1104 Charles Street
1 & 3 Wednesday
M-Stanley H. Armstrong, Jr.
S-Lloyd F. Foley
- James B. Green 735 (25)**
Raleigh
512 Lynn Road
2 & 4 Tuesday
M-James G. Lassiter
S-Ronald C. Hollamon
- New River 736 (9)**
Jacksonville
Old Hwy 30
2 & 4 Thursday
M-Samuel A. Foster
S-James H. Kirtner, Jr.
- Steele Creek 737 (42)**
Charlotte
9424 Steele Creek Road
1 Monday
M-Richard E. Carver
S-J. Clifford Austin, Jr.
- West Gate 738 (42)**
Charlotte
5924 Brookshire Blvd.
3 Monday
M-John C. Votik, Jr.
S-John R. Litaker
- Newell 739 (40)**
Newell
1409 Rocky River Road W
1 Monday
2 Monday September
M-Raymond L. White
S-Charles R. Smith, Jr.
- Charles B. Newcomb 740 (24)**
Raleigh
5700 Tryon Road
3 Thursday
M-Eric T. Decker
S-Donald N. Chesson
- Crisie Wright 741 (8)**
Smyrna
500 Hwy 70 E
2 & 4 Wednesday
M-Alfred P. Noyes
S-Ralph N. Daniels
- Mint Hill 742 (41)**
Mint Hill
10224 Lawyerr Road
1 Thursday
M-James B. McLaughlin, Sr.
S-Weldon R. Needham
- J. J. Crowder 743 (25)**
Raleigh
10020 Falls of Neuse Road
1 Thursday
M-Leslie W. Hereford
S-Charles W. Howell, Jr.
- Shelby 744 (58)**
Shelby
220 E. Warren Street
1 Monday
M-Ricky A. Jones
S-Donald W. Loftis
- Vandora 745 (24)**
Garner
Hwy 50
1 Thursday
M-Dennis H. Cupp
S-W. Douglas Gamber
- P. P. Turner 746 (36)**
Greensboro
3408 Londonderry Drive
1 Thursday
M-William A. Hurlburt
S-Kurt M. Van Tine
- Ocracoke 747 (3)**
Ocracoke
Not Available
1 & 3 Thursday
M-Thomas J. Hutcherson
S-Michael T. Lawson
- Truth 749 (39)**
Monroe
520 E. Franklin Street
2 Monday
M-James R. Mills
S-Jerry L. Honeycutt
- Oak Grove 750 (32)**
Durham
Not Available
3 Monday
M-Robert F. Gunter, Jr.
S-Walter R. Allen
- Old Town 751 (46)**
Winston-Salem
5112 N. Causeway Drive
3 Tuesday
M-William L. Hopkins, Jr.
S-Scott T. Horn
- Enterprise 752 (46)**
Arcadia
Hwy 150 N
2 Monday
M-Thomas W. Allen, Jr.
S-Jackson E. Spease
- Federal Point 753 (10)**
Carolina Beach
Fifth & Harper
4 Tuesday
2 Tuesday December
M-Ronald J. Perryman
S-William E. Jones, Jr.
- Masters 754 (25)**
Raleigh
1520 Caswell Street
3 Thursday
M-John A. Gatton
S-Charles W. Walton
- Clemmons 755 (46)**
Clemmons
6210 Stadium Drive
1 Monday
M-Gregory F. Key
S-Frederick P. Wood
- Clifford Duel 756 (29)**
Fayetteville
2860 Village Drive
3 Monday
1 Monday December
M-Sammie D. McMinn
S-Marvin F. Asbill
- Denver 757 (53)**
Denver
3333 St. James Church Road
3 Tuesday
1 Tuesday December
M-William C. Edwards
S-James R. Barnes
- Oak Island 758 (10)**
Long Beach
2408 E. Oak Island Drive
3 Thursday
M-Robert L. McCarter, Jr.
S-Josh R. Brinkley
- James K. Polk 759 (42)**
Pineville
204 Dover Street
2 Thursday
M-Brian P. Talley
S-Edward W. Boland



This charter was originally issued to Roundtree Lodge No. 243 at Contentnea Neck, Lenoir County, December 4, 1866. It was reissued April 2, 1950, when Roundtree Lodge consolidated with Grifton Lodge No. 452 (chartered January 11, 1895). The original charter was signed by Grand Master E. S. Reade and Grand Secretary William T. Bain.

Duplicate Charter of Grifton Lodge No. 243

Abstract of Returns

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**North Carolina Lodges
Listed Numerically**

Lodge Name	Lodge Number	District	Initiated	Passed	Raised	Admitted	Restored	Expelled	Suspended UMC	Excluded NPD	Demitted	Died	Membership 1998	Membership 1999	Gains (Losses)	Rejected	Exempt Members	Fees	Dues	Affiliation Fees	Lodge Number
St. John's	1	10	2	2	2	3	1	0	0	12	3	12	475	454	0	4	45	100	45	0	1
Royal White H	2	20	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	64	61	0	0	0	50	40	0	2
St. John's	3	7	3	2	4	3	4	0	0	6	3	9	311	304	0	12	75	35	30	3	
St. John's	4	11	3	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	189	180	0	0	32	100	60	0	4
Charity	5	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	71	66	0	0	14	50	30	0	5
Unanimity	7	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	4	121	115	0	0	9	75	35	10	7
Phoenix	8	29	12	13	12	1	3	0	0	10	2	14	414	404	0	1	22	100	35	5	8
Johnston Casw	10	21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	48	47	0	0	1	0	50	0	10
Caswell Brothe	11	34	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	1	113	109	0	0	2	0	35	0	11
St. John's	13	12	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	4	81	73	0	0	10	60	60	0	13
American Geor	17	19	1	1	2	0	1	0	0	2	0	3	76	74	0	0	8	60	50	4.5	17
Eagle	19	32	4	3	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	144	146	2	0	11	0	0	0	19
Stateville	27	52	2	1	2	2	0	0	0	0	1	4	175	174	0	0	10	60	50	0	27
Phalanx	31	42	4	6	3	1	0	0	0	2	2	6	159	153	0	1	21	100	50	0	31
Stokes	32	43	2	4	4	1	3	0	0	6	0	6	267	263	0	0	16	75	50	0	32
Davie	39	2	5	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	5	174	169	0	1	19	100	35	0	39
Hiram	40	25	5	3	7	1	2	0	0	3	3	6	331	329	0	0	27	75	60	25	40
Liberty	45	50	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	129	126	0	0	8	100	50	0	45
Hall	53	1	1	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	104	104	0	1	14	100	45	0	53
Concord	58	18	1	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	4	122	121	0	0	3	100	60	0	58
Perseverance	59	4	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	3	0	8	158	148	0	1	14	50	60	0	59
Kilwinning	64	39	3	3	2	0	0	0	0	2	4	5	181	172	0	0	8	100	40	0	64
Widow's Son	75	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	3	78	75	0	0	10	100	45	10	75
Greensboro	76	36	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	4	238	235	0	0	37	100	45	0	76
Zion	81	7	3	4	2	1	0	0	0	1	2	3	125	122	0	0	6	100	35	15	81
LaFayette	84	9	5	7	7	2	3	0	0	10	2	5	271	266	0	0	20	100	50	0	83
Fellowship	84	27	3	2	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	8	157	149	0	0	16	75	60	20	84

Morning Star	85	18	4	3	1	1	1	0	0	1	2	1	102	101	0	0	7	50	40	10	85
Skewarkee	90	2	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	126	125	0	0	4	75	50	0	90
Western Star	91	59	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	96	94	0	0	6	100	50	0	91
Joseph Warre	92	17	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	51	53	2	0	3	50	40	0	92
Jerusalem	95	11	3	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	50	49	0	0	2	50	15	0	95
Millbrook	97	25	5	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	4	202	200	0	0	4	75	50	5	97
Hiram	98	15	3	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	9	230	223	0	0	14	100	50	0	98
Fulton	99	44	4	3	3	0	0	0	0	2	0	7	209	203	0	0	16	375	50	0	99
Columbus	102	13	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	78	78	0	0	6	100	50	0	102
Orr	104	4	7	4	3	0	2	0	0	0	1	6	170	168	0	2	7	50	50	25	104
Perquimans	106	1	4	4	3	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	117	119	2	0	17	75	25	10	106
Franklin	109	4	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	9	289	281	0	1	29	100	40	10	109
Wayne	112	16	3	3	3	0	2	0	0	2	4	8	294	285	0	0	22	125	45	0	112
Person	113	33	1	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	2	2	100	99	0	0	11	100	75	10	113
St Alban's	114	14	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	12	275	265	0	1	25	100	35	0	114
Holly Springs	115	26	2	1	2	2	0	0	0	1	0	1	36	38	2	1	1	100	50	0	115
Mount Lebanon	117	17	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	7	149	141	0	1	10	100	40	2.5	117
Mount Hermon	118	61	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	4	4	7	232	218	0	0	22	85	40	5	118
Oxford	122	33	2	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	4	216	214	0	0	8	100	50	0	122
Franklinton	123	22	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	91	89	0	0	2	87	50	0	123
Mill Creek	125	15	4	3	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	6	110	104	0	0	8	75	50	15	125
Gatesville	126	1	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	99	97	0	0	13	50	40	10	126
Blackmer	127	38	5	2	2	1	0	0	0	2	0	2	132	131	0	0	6	85	40	0	127
Hanks	128	37	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	69	69	0	0	2	100	50	0	128
Dan River	129	35	2	2	2	1	2	0	0	4	0	2	131	130	0	0	13	100	40	0	129
Radiance	132	11	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	70	72	2	0	7	75	50	0	132
Mocksville	134	48	2	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	11	140	132	0	0	11	100	50	5	134
Leaksville	136	35	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	8	213	204	0	0	8	125	50	10	136
Lincoln	137	53	0	2	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	247	250	3	0	12	150	30	0	137
King Solomon	138	10	7	8	5	1	0	0	0	1	0	3	98	100	2	0	9	150	75	0	138
Mount Vernon	143	31	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	55	52	0	0	6	75	50	0	143
Junaluskee	145	64	8	8	8	6	0	0	0	0	1	8	246	251	5	0	36	150	65	35	145
Cherokees	146	65	4	4	4	0	2	0	0	5	1	4	140	136	0	0	5	60	30	0	146
Palmyra	147	28	5	5	6	1	1	1	0	3	0	10	293	287	0	1	28	100	50	35	147
Adoniram	149	33	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	32	31	0	0	2	0	0	0	149
Pee Dee	150	38	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	3	2	1	69	64	0	0	4	75	60	0	150

Lodge Name	Lodge Number	District	Initiated	Passed	Raised	Admitted	Restored	Expelled	Suspended UMC	Excluded NPD	Demitted	Died	Membership 1998	Membership 1999	Gains (Losses)	Rejected	Exempt Members	Fees	Dues	Affiliation Fees	Lodge Number
Sanford	151	31	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	146	143	0	0	11	50	45	0	151
Scotch Ireland	154	44	1	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	96	96	0	0	7	100	50	0	154
White Stone	155	23	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	2	117	114	114	0	0	10	60	75	35	155
Knapp of Reeds	158	32	6	5	4	2	0	0	0	1	1	145	148	148	3	0	3	100	25	10	158
Yadkin	162	48	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	7	0	3	153	145	0	0	4	35	50	0	162
Archer	165	23	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	34	32	32	0	0	4	50	40	0	165
Winston	167	46	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	6	176	169	0	0	17	0	50	0	167
Blackmer	170	62	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	2	129	122	0	0	10	100	35	0	170
Buffalo	172	31	5	4	4	1	0	0	0	3	2	2	173	172	0	0	12	50	50	0	172
Mecklenburg	176	40	2	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	5	166	165	0	1	7	100	40	0	176
Carthage	181	31	4	5	5	3	1	0	0	0	1	62	70	70	8	0	4	100	40	0	181
Central Cross	187	18	1	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	73	74	1	0	4	50	35	0	187
Balfour	188	37	0	1	1	2	3	0	0	3	0	6	104	101	0	0	10	75	40	5	188
Fair Bluff	190	13	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	33	34	0	0	5	100	50	0	190
Granite	191	27	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	1	1	89	86	0	0	4	100	60	0	191
Gary	198	26	7	8	8	2	0	0	0	2	4	6	249	247	0	0	16	75	50	5	198
Cleveland	202	56	9	8	7	1	0	0	0	0	2	3	316	319	3	1	36	75	50	5	202
Reanoke	203	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	35	35	0	0	2	0	0	0	203
Long Creek	205	42	2	0	1	3	0	0	0	2	4	8	326	316	0	0	11	50	45	0	205
Mingo	206	15	3	8	9	1	0	0	0	0	1	3	119	128	9	0	5	100	50	0	206
Lebanon	207	13	6	5	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	135	135	0	0	6	100	50	0	207
Mount Olive	208	16	3	0	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	5	155	154	0	0	14	75	50	0	208
Eno	210	32	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	5	0	9	188	175	0	0	23	100	35	10	210
Thomasville	214	45	3	3	0	1	0	0	0	3	1	7	231	224	0	0	18	150	50	25	214
Catawba Valley	217	57	14	8	10	5	2	0	0	1	1	9	263	269	6	2	15	125	55	21	217
William G. Hill	218	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	11	266	243	0	0	37	75	45	0	218
Wilson	226	51	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	50	51	1	0	3	65	30	0	226

Henderson	229	21	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	5	174	168	0	0	19	100	60	10	229
Corinthian	230	18	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	12	193	180	0	0	12	50	40	3	230
William T. Bai	231	24	2	1	1	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	94	96	2	0	3	75	100	10	231
Lenoir	233	11	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	46	46	0	1	4	75	50	0	233
Mystic Tie	237	59	3	2	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	2	163	161	0	0	13	75	36	10	237
Wicacoon	240	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	24	24	0	0	3	50	25	0	240
Grifton	243	5	2	2	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	2	114	111	0	0	10	75	60	0	243
Monroe	244	39	3	3	3	2	1	0	0	2	0	8	293	289	0	0	14	75	50	10	244
Catawba	248	53	2	1	1	1	0	0	0	9	0	3	120	110	0	0	17	0	0	0	248
Pythagoras	249	10	3	1	1	3	0	0	0	1	1	3	134	133	0	0	7	150	50	0	249
Lee	253	51	1	2	1	0	2	0	0	0	3	6	128	122	0	3	4	65	40	0	253
Kenly	257	27	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	60	59	0	0	2	75	50	75	257
Fuquay	258	26	2	2	2	1	0	0	0	3	1	4	139	134	0	0	7	75	40	0	258
Waynesville	259	63	3	2	2	3	0	0	0	3	0	10	190	182	0	0	8	75	35	25	259
Excelsior	261	40	3	2	2	1	7	0	0	17	2	13	388	366	0	0	50	100	45	0	261
Hibriten	262	57	5	3	2	4	0	0	0	3	1	8	311	305	0	0	18	150	50	10	262
Gaston	263	55	8	6	6	3	0	0	0	9	3	1	182	178	0	0	8	125	50	5	263
Farmington	265	48	1	4	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	100	99	0	0	3	75	35	0	265
Dunn's Rock	267	60	3	3	3	4	1	0	0	8	0	9	217	208	0	0	20	125	40	0	267
Tabasco	271	34	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	2	0	1	74	73	0	0	3	75	20	5	271
Bingham	272	34	1	0	0	0	3	0	0	4	0	4	154	149	0	2	11	150	40	6	272
Beaver Dam	276	39	1	3	2	1	2	0	0	10	0	0	111	106	0	0	1	100	75	0	276
Green Level	277	26	3	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	79	80	1	0	4	75	35	0	277
Rehoboth	279	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	40	40	0	0	4	50	50	0	279
Wake Forest	282	22	3	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	2	95	92	0	0	9	100	50	0	282
Eureka	283	44	3	3	3	2	1	0	0	8	1	7	229	219	0	1	11	0	50	0	283
Greenville	284	5	2	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	2	6	146	139	0	0	16	50	50	0	284
Salem	289	46	4	3	2	3	2	0	0	2	4	14	415	402	0	0	45	150	40	9	289
French Broad	292	62	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	182	181	0	0	18	75	25	10	292
Vance	293	62	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	131	130	0	0	19	100	50	10	293
Atlantic	294	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	46	44	0	0	4	50	40	0	294
Stonewall	296	5	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	5	73	67	0	0	8	50	40	0	296
Harmony	299	51	2	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	48	49	1	0	5	30	50	0	299
Aurora	300	6	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	44	44	0	0	5	60	40	0	300
Clay	301	65	3	2	1	3	2	0	0	7	1	0	206	204	0	0	31	75	50	25	301
Lillington	302	28	2	3	2	1	2	0	0	14	0	5	235	221	0	0	15	50	40	0	302

Lodge Name	Lodge Number	District	Initiated	Passed	Raised	Admitted	Restored	Expelled	Suspended UMC	Excluded NPD	Demitted	Died	Membership 1998	Membership 1999	Gains (Losses)	Rejected	Exempt Members	Fees	Dues	Affiliation Fees	Lodge Number
Pleasant Hill	304	11	5	3	6	1	0	0	0	4	1	2	177	177	0	1	14	75	50	2.5	304
Laurinburg	305	30	2	1	3	1	1	0	0	5	1	4	137	132	0	0	7	125	75	7.5	305
Rae ford	306	30	4	4	4	0	1	0	0	1	2	0	116	118	2	0	7	75	55	10	306
New Lebanon	314	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	3	105	101	0	0	8	85	45	0	314
Eureka	317	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	7	1	9	296	281	0	1	20	100	45	6	317
Wilmington	319	10	6	4	4	3	0	0	0	6	3	8	354	344	0	0	25	100	45	10	319
Selma	320	27	2	2	1	0	1	1	0	4	0	1	113	109	0	0	12	100	50	0	320
Granite	322	47	8	8	8	0	0	0	0	4	2	8	200	195	0	0	24	100	40	1	322
Mattamuskeet	328	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	93	43	0	0	3	75	40	25	328
Bayboro	331	6	0	0	0	2	3	0	0	5	0	2	93	91	0	0	9	10	40	0	331
Fairview	339	56	4	2	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	6	241	239	0	1	8	100	40	25	339
Harmony	340	16	7	6	6	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	89	94	5	0	4	125	50	0	340
Hickory	343	57	6	4	4	0	1	0	0	3	5	8	387	376	0	0	22	125	50	0	343
Numa F. Reid	344	45	2	3	2	0	1	0	0	3	3	12	177	162	0	0	22	75	55	15	348
Stanly	348	38	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	10	206	195	0	1	11	100	35	7.5	352
Durham	352	32	2	1	1	0	1	0	0	4	1	12	350	335	0	0	24	100	40	0	352
Fallston	356	56	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	1	3	109	104	0	0	10	75	35	7.5	356
Bakersville	357	58	1	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	131	132	1	2	13	150	45	0	357
East LaPorte	358	64	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	4	0	3	93	87	0	0	5	75	35	0	358
Mount Vernon	359	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	73	70	0	0	14	0	45	0	359
Snow	363	49	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	237	233	0	0	18	100	50	0	363
Gaston	369	55	2	3	2	1	1	0	0	6	0	16	334	316	0	0	26	100	45	0	369
Ashler	373	49	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	74	73	0	0	4	100	40	0	373
Campbell	374	52	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	85	85	0	0	5	75	50	0	374
State Line	375	56	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	62	64	2	0	0	75	60	0	375
Youngville	377	22	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	33	29	0	1	1	75	75	0	377
Seaboard	378	19	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	34	34	0	0	5	50	25	0	378

[illegible]

Lodge Name	Lodge Number	District	Initiated	Passed	Raised	Admitted	Restored	Expelled	Suspended UMC	Excluded NPD	Demitted	Died	Membership 1998	Membership 1999	Gains (Losses)	Rejected	Exempt Members	Fees	Dues	Affiliation Fees	Lodge Number
Marietta	444	37	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	80	80	0	0	6	75	40	0	444
Biltmore	446	61	15	8	8	5	1	0	0	6	3	12	411	404	0	0	16	85	45	15	446
Enfield	447	20	1	1	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	3	72	73	1	0	6	50	18	0	447
Clyde	453	63	3	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	72	72	0	0	12	75	35	15	453
Elkin	454	47	3	3	3	1	0	0	0	2	1	3	181	179	0	0	11	75	40	5	454
Dillsboro	459	64	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	89	87	0	0	2	125	45	25	459
Cliffside	460	59	1	1	1	0	5	0	0	0	0	2	157	161	4	0	8	85	45	0	460
Matthews	461	41	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	9	2	9	272	254	0	0	5	100	45	0	461
South Fork	462	54	5	4	4	1	0	0	0	2	1	3	146	145	0	0	14	100	40	0	462
Currituck	463	1	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	105	102	0	0	13	75	50	10	463
Grassy Knob	471	51	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	56	52	0	0	7	100	30	0	471
Sonoma	472	63	2	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	3	101	101	0	0	4	75	40	10	472
Lexington	473	45	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	0	7	221	214	0	0	15	100	50	5	473
St Pauls	474	14	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	70	69	0	0	6	100	40	30	474
Grimesland	475	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	83	81	0	0	3	50	50	50	475
Rainbow	479	6	2	1	1	1	0	0	0	2	0	1	83	82	0	0	5	50	50	50	479
Saluda	482	60	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	74	71	0	0	2	90	35	10	482
Traphill	483	50	3	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	70	71	1	1	3	100	40	0	483
Southern Pine	484	30	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	3	3	2	188	181	0	0	34	50	30	5	484
Lawndale	486	56	3	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	4	94	90	0	0	1	60	30	0	486
Rich Square	488	19	3	1	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	34	38	4	0	6	25	0	0	488
Linville	489	58	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	5	92	86	0	0	10	0	35	0	489
Hominy	491	61	4	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	4	9	200	189	0	0	14	100	65	0	491
Thomas M Holt	492	34	4	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	5	171	170	0	0	7	100	40	10	492
Pilot	493	47	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	52	52	0	0	3	50	60	10	493
Rockingham	495	30	4	1	1	2	1	0	0	2	0	6	205	201	0	0	16	80	12	0	495
Mooreville	496	52	3	2	2	1	1	0	0	3	0	7	161	155	0	0	10	150	40	0	496

Royal Hart	497	20	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	48	49	1	0	6	50	25	0	497
Ayden	498	5	3	1	0	1	1	0	0	2	2	2	67	63	0	0	7	50	75	3	498
Creedmoor	499	33	4	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	52	51	0	0	5	50	25	0	499
Raleigh	500	25	2	3	3	0	0	0	0	2	2	3	93	89	0	0	12	75	55	10	500
Red Springs	501	14	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	4	2	6	84	73	0	0	3	100	50	10	501
Cookville	502	57	9	11	10	1	0	0	0	0	1	3	156	163	7	0	1	75	40	0	502
Cherryville	505	55	3	0	0	1	1	0	0	6	0	6	234	224	0	0	10	100	40	0	505
Belhaven	509	4	5	2	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	116	118	2	0	4	50	50	50	509
Whetstone	515	55	7	3	3	0	0	0	0	5	1	4	166	159	0	0	7	100	40	25	515
Farmville	517	5	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	82	80	0	1	6	60	50	10	517
Widow's Son	519	20	1	1	2	1	3	0	0	7	2	4	168	161	0	0	10	100	50	50	519
Fairfield	520	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	42	39	0	0	4	50	50	0	520
Manteo	521	3	4	1	1	3	0	0	0	0	2	5	237	234	0	1	24	75	40	15	521
Rodgers	525	17	4	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	65	70	5	0	1	50	35	0	525
Lucama	527	17	3	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	73	71	0	0	11	50	40	40	527
Fairmont	528	14	4	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	122	119	0	0	8	150	40	0	528
Andrews	529	65	6	5	4	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	151	155	4	1	5	50	25	0	529
Joppa	530	41	3	2	2	3	3	0	0	4	7	12	400	385	0	0	28	100	60	0	530
Hamlet	532	30	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	6	141	135	0	0	6	100	100	15	532
Camp Call	534	56	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	116	113	0	0	5	75	35	0	534
Hollis	535	59	5	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	114	117	3	1	8	75	40	0	535
Corinthian	542	36	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	8	1	4	209	197	0	0	18	100	45	15	542
Spencer	543	44	2	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	5	161	158	0	0	10	100	45	0	543
Mount Holly	544	54	4	2	2	0	0	0	0	6	6	6	211	195	0	0	8	100	40	0	544
Roman Eagle	550	30	5	5	5	1	0	0	0	1	2	2	125	126	1	0	7	85	50	10	550
Glenville	551	64	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	46	45	0	0	3	75	40	50	551
Revolution	552	36	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	7	5	11	550	528	0	0	44	100	40	10	552
Vesper	554	58	6	5	7	2	0	0	0	0	0	5	179	183	4	1	8	100	30	0	554
Elise	555	31	2	1	2	0	1	0	0	2	2	7	149	141	0	0	12	100	35	0	555
Neill S. Stewar	556	28	4	3	5	1	1	0	0	2	0	5	138	138	0	0	17	100	45	0	556
Ararat	558	47	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	42	39	0	0	0	60	35	0	558
Swannanoa	561	61	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	2	4	106	101	0	0	4	70	25	5	561
Waxhaw	562	39	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	8	0	2	82	74	0	0	4	100	75	0	562
Tabor	563	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	95	95	0	0	1	100	50	10	563
Richlands	564	9	3	3	3	0	0	0	0	1	1	4	116	113	0	1	6	100	35	0	564
Wendell	565	23	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	4	97	92	0	0	9	50	50	5	565

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Doric	568	7	1	1	1	3	4	0	0	14	1	13	407	387	0	0	65	75	40	0	568
Snow Creek	571	51	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	72	70	0	0	5	50	25	0	571
Mount Pleasant	573	50	2	1	1	0	2	0	0	4	0	1	117	115	0	1	5	100	40	15	573
Andrew Jackson	576	44	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	4	2	7	282	270	0	0	14	75	50	0	576
Meadow Branch	578	39	5	4	2	1	10	0	0	19	4	3	120	107	0	0	4	75	50	0	578
Caesar	579	66	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	129	128	0	0	5	60	25	0	579
Ionic	583	7	3	3	3	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	123	124	1	0	3	75	45	0	583
Apex	584	26	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	68	65	0	0	6	75	60	10	584
Roseboro	585	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	71	70	0	0	3	75	50	15	585
Bethel	589	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	36	33	0	0	7	50	75	0	589
Lowell	590	54	2	2	2	5	0	0	0	0	1	5	274	275	1	0	10	125	40	0	590
Maiden	592	53	1	2	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	120	118	0	0	11	100	50	0	592
Stony Point	593	51	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	3	77	75	0	1	0	60	40	0	593
Ashe	594	49	4	5	4	0	3	0	0	4	0	5	169	167	0	0	6	75	35	0	594
Wallace	595	12	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	5	100	95	0	0	13	50	50	0	595
Waccamaw	596	13	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	96	94	0	0	2	75	50	0	596
Cranberry	598	58	6	2	2	4	0	0	0	2	0	1	120	123	3	0	7	75	25	0	598
Queen City	602	18	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	4	120	114	0	0	3	50	40	0	602
Jeff L. Nelson	605	60	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	74	71	0	0	3	75	40	10	605
Riverside	606	53	5	6	4	0	3	0	0	6	0	4	168	165	0	0	5	100	50	0	606
Chadbourne	607	13	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	4	0	1	77	73	0	0	6	150	60	0	607
Zebulon	609	23	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	60	60	0	0	7	75	75	75	609
Atkinson	612	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	53	52	0	0	6	160	60	0	612
Home	613	16	3	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	48	48	2	0	3	50	40	0	613
Round Peak	616	47	5	5	5	1	0	0	0	1	2	4	211	210	0	0	8	100	40	0	616
St. Patrick's	617	27	3	8	9	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	79	87	0	0	4	75	60	0	617
Union	618	43	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	179	176	0	0	7	100	50	0	618

John H. Mills	624	21	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	40	40	0	0	2	0	50	0	624
Cannon Memor	626	43	5	3	3	1	3	0	0	11	2	7	296	283	0	0	25	100	50	10	626
Belmont	627	54	3	2	2	1	0	0	0	1	0	4	180	178	0	0	14	125	45	0	627
Walnut Cove	629	35	1	1	1	3	1	0	0	1	0	1	88	91	3	0	5	130	45	0	629
Francis S Pack	630	21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	2	39	34	0	0	2	75	50	0	630
Goldsboro	634	16	8	6	4	3	2	0	0	4	1	9	223	218	0	0	15	125	45	0	634
Yadkin Falls	637	38	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	4	60	55	0	0	3	50	50	1	637
Proctorville	643	14	2	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	68	71	3	0	1	100	50	0	643
Bladen	646	13	2	2	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	4	172	172	0	2	6	100	35	1	646
John A. Nichol	650	61	0	1	2	1	1	0	0	2	2	6	102	96	0	0	11	85	40	20	650
Elberta	654	30	0	0	0	3	1	0	0	2	0	1	86	87	1	0	7	75	50	10	654
Guilford	656	36	0	1	1	1	2	0	0	3	2	4	246	241	0	0	16	100	60	7.5	656
Keller Memori	657	44	3	3	3	2	4	0	0	0	0	8	349	350	1	0	11	100	30	0	657
Beulaville	658	12	3	3	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	2	96	94	0	0	2	50	40	0	658
Black Mountai	663	61	5	6	7	1	1	0	0	0	5	2	190	192	2	1	10	80	50	10	663
Garland	664	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	41	41	0	0	3	100	50	0	664
West Asheville	665	61	1	1	2	2	1	0	0	6	2	3	138	132	0	0	10	85	50	10	665
Fort Bragg	667	29	11	5	6	0	1	0	0	11	3	11	402	384	0	0	16	100	50	25	667
Holland Memor	668	55	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	0	7	208	190	0	0	14	100	45	0	668
Kernersville	669	46	4	4	4	3	2	0	0	6	3	4	268	264	0	0	12	100	35	5	669
Lovelady	670	57	7	8	10	0	0	0	0	2	0	5	111	114	3	0	7	100	50	0	670
Robbinsville	672	65	2	2	3	0	0	0	0	4	0	5	225	219	0	0	12	50	30	0	672
Spindale	673	59	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	120	115	0	2	8	40	40	100	673
Acacia	674	45	2	0	0	2	2	0	0	4	2	3	167	162	0	0	9	75	50	5	674
Washington	675	4	2	4	2	0	2	0	0	2	0	5	117	114	0	0	13	50	50	0	675
Temple	676	42	4	1	1	2	0	0	0	2	4	12	292	277	0	0	30	100	50	0	676
Warsaw	677	12	1	1	2	1	0	0	0	1	1	3	70	68	0	0	7	75	50	0	677
Providence	678	3	1	3	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	3	76	78	2	2	7	75	40	10	678
Creasy Procto	679	29	6	6	4	3	5	0	0	19	1	16	634	610	0	1	20	100	50	20	679
Semper Fidelis	680	9	10	9	8	2	2	0	0	4	2	6	265	265	0	0	10	100	50	0	680
Piedmont	681	45	1	2	1	4	0	0	0	1	0	5	91	90	0	0	7	75	50	10	681
Rolesville	683	23	4	4	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	78	81	3	0	2	75	50	0	683
Pioneer	685	46	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	158	148	0	0	12	150	45	5	685
Angier	686	28	3	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	4	101	99	0	0	2	100	50	0	686
Fellowship	687	32	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	5	177	169	0	0	5	100	35	17.5	687
Cherry Point	688	8	0	1	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	5	232	231	0	1	9	100	50	10	688

Lodge Name	Lodge Number	District	Initiated	Passed	Raised	Admitted	Restored	Expelled	Suspended UMC	Excluded NPD	Demitted	Died	Membership 1998	Membership 1999	Gains (Losses)	Rejected	Exempt Members	Fees	Dues	Affiliation Fees	Lodge Number
Scotland Neck	689	20	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	5	3	61	54	0	0	1	75	25	0	689
Mount Moriah	690	52	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	118	114	0	0	11	60	50	0	690
Ranfro	691	47	5	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	8	8	160	155	0	2	9	100	30	0	691
East Gate	692	40	6	9	8	4	2	0	0	14	5	17	501	479	0	2	6	100	40	0	692
Charles M. Set	693	41	2	1	2	3	0	0	0	3	1	9	214	206	0	0	12	100	50	5	693
Gate City	694	36	6	4	4	1	2	0	0	2	3	7	317	312	0	0	10	100	40	10	694
Allen-Graham	695	43	7	3	3	0	0	0	0	5	1	11	381	367	0	2	10	100	40	10	695
Memorial	696	45	1	2	2	0	1	0	0	1	1	3	169	167	0	0	9	100	50	5	696
Butner	697	33	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	3	69	65	0	0	3	100	50	0	697
Cape Hatteras	698	3	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	4	103	98	0	0	8	75	40	0	698
Asheboro	699	37	7	6	6	0	4	0	0	7	0	1	216	216	0	0	4	75	35	0	699
Friendship	700	41	1	5	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	129	134	5	0	5	100	45	0	700
Garner	701	24	1	3	2	1	1	0	0	5	0	2	117	113	2	0	2	75	50	0	701
St. Andrew	702	40	4	2	8	0	1	0	0	7	0	3	273	278	5	0	4	100	50	0	702
Albemarle	703	38	8	7	8	3	4	0	0	0	0	1	188	183	0	1	6	100	60	0	703
King Solomon	704	55	2	2	2	0	2	0	0	7	2	0	273	278	0	0	1	100	50	0	704
Richard Caswe	705	11	3	2	1	1	2	0	0	0	4	5	223	218	0	0	1	100	50	0	705
Newport	706	8	6	6	4	0	0	0	0	4	1	5	130	124	0	0	6	100	40	10	706
Forsyth	707	46	3	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	4	128	129	1	0	2	150	50	0	707
Crown Point	708	5	8	10	9	3	0	0	0	1	2	4	198	203	5	0	5	50	50	0	708
Conover	709	53	4	2	1	0	1	0	0	5	0	5	128	120	0	1	5	100	50	0	709
Advance	710	48	3	4	2	4	0	0	0	0	0	4	143	145	2	0	0	150	50	150	710
Piedmont	711	46	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	69	67	0	0	0	150	45	10	711
Wilson	712	17	4	3	4	1	3	0	0	1	2	3	167	169	2	0	4	100	50	10	712
Stanley	713	8	2	2	3	1	0	0	0	7	0	3	208	202	0	0	1	100	35	0	713
Liberty	714	37	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	79	78	0	0	1	75	45	0	714
Derita	715	42	2	3	2	1	3	0	0	5	7	11	330	313	0	0	6	100	50	9	715

Burnsville	717	62	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	5	118	112	0	0	5	75	35	0	717
Troy	718	38	2	3	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	86	84	0	0	1	85	35	0	718
Horse Creek	719	60	1	1	2	1	0	0	0	3	0	0	64	64	0	0	4	75	45	0	719
Cabarrus	720	43	3	3	3	1	2	0	0	7	1	3	215	210	0	0	3	0	75	0	720
Burlington	721	34	3	2	2	1	1	0	0	3	1	2	133	131	0	0	4	75	50	0	721
King	722	46	3	3	3	1	0	0	0	2	0	1	144	145	1	0	3	100	50	0	722
Winton	723	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	29	27	0	0	0	50	25	10	723
Berne	724	7	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	3	1	6	205	197	0	0	6	150	70	0	724
Grantham	725	7	12	11	7	1	0	0	0	1	3	5	175	174	0	0	7	75	50	5	725
Keystone	726	41	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	4	4	126	120	0	0	0	100	48	0	726
Shallotte	727	13	11	11	12	3	0	0	0	6	8	3	396	394	0	0	9	150	50	15	727
Meridian	728	40	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	5	2	88	79	0	0	4	100	55	0	728
Twin County	729	18	1	3	3	0	1	0	0	1	1	3	167	166	0	0	2	50	40	3.5	729
Stedman	730	29	2	3	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	77	80	3	0	1	100	50	10	730
John Huske An	731	29	5	3	3	0	2	0	0	11	2	5	215	202	0	0	6	100	45	5	731
Bush Hill	732	37	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	5	0	1	108	104	0	0	3	75	48	8	732
Stump Sound	733	9	2	2	2	1	1	0	0	4	1	4	118	113	0	0	3	75	45	0	733
William Pitt	734	5	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	3	1	2	91	86	0	0	0	50	50	0	734
James B Green	735	25	6	7	8	1	0	0	0	0	2	5	157	159	2	0	3	75	100	25	735
New River	736	9	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	5	2	1	145	139	0	0	3	100	50	0	736
Steele Creek	737	42	3	2	2	0	3	0	0	9	2	8	345	331	0	0	9	100	50	10	737
West Gate	738	42	17	14	15	1	0	0	0	13	4	8	443	434	0	0	7	100	50	0	738
Newell	739	40	4	3	3	0	1	0	0	9	4	1	195	185	0	0	3	100	50	50	739
Charles B New	740	24	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	54	52	0	0	0	75	60	0	740
Crissie Wright	741	8	4	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	190	188	0	1	3	100	35	10	741
Mint Hill	742	41	10	8	15	8	1	0	0	7	2	8	400	407	7	1	7	100	55	0	742
J J Crowder	743	25	1	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	60	63	3	0	1	75	75	0	743
Shelby	744	56	3	4	3	0	0	0	0	6	1	3	121	114	0	0	1	75	40	0	744
Vandora	745	24	1	4	4	1	1	0	0	5	1	4	102	98	0	0	2	75	60	0	745
P P Turner	746	36	6	4	3	0	1	0	0	10	1	3	201	191	0	1	4	100	55	6	746
Ocracoke	747	3	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	37	36	0	0	0	50	35	0	747
Truth	749	39	8	7	3	5	1	0	0	9	2	2	193	189	0	0	0	75	50	10	749
Oak Grove	750	32	2	2	2	1	1	0	0	2	0	4	162	160	0	0	0	100	45	0	750
Old Town	751	46	3	3	3	0	1	0	0	3	6	1	229	223	0	0	8	150	50	0	751
Enterprise	752	46	3	3	3	1	0	0	0	0	1	3	116	116	0	0	2	75	60	10	752
Federal Point	753	10	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	2	1	93	90	0	0	4	100	45	0	753

Lodge Name	Lodge Number	District	Initiated	Passed	Raised	Admitted	Restored	Expelled	Suspended UMC	Excluded NPD	Demitted	Died	Membership 1998	Membership 1999	Gains (Losses)	Rejected	Exempt Members	Fees	Dues	Affiliation Fees	Lodge Number
Masters	754	25	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	3	1	2	56	53	0	0	1	75	50	0	754
Clemmons	755	46	3	1	1	1	0	0	0	4	1	0	94	91	0	0	5	100	60	0	755
Clifford Duell	756	29	6	4	4	3	0	0	0	2	0	1	72	76	4	0	0	100	50	5	756
Denver	757	53	0	0	1	4	0	0	0	4	0	5	129	125	0	0	3	150	40	0	757
Oak Island	758	10	3	2	2	1	0	0	0	1	1	3	110	108	0	4	5	100	40	0	758
James K Polk	759	42	4	5	4	1	0	0	0	0	4	1	142	142	0	0	2	700	75	5	759
Totals			995	825	808	329	240	3	1	872	372	1,491	57,957	56,595	0	70	3,535				

INDEX

- Abstract 283
- Accountant 16
- Addresses, Miscellaneous Speeches
 - Demolay, Matthew D. Hunt 94
 - Grand Orator Lacy H. Thornburg 41
 - Job's Daughters, Irene Birbeck 92
 - Rainbow for Girls, Ashley Bashioum 91
- Amendments to *The Code*
 - 2000 Session 232
- Annual Communication
 - Opening ceremonies 22
 - First day morning session 22
 - First day afternoon session 91
 - Second day morning session 223
 - Closing 252
 - Members and guests present 22
- Appeals, Committee on
 - See Committees
- Attendance
 - See Committee on Credentials Report; also Annual Communication
- Auditor
 - Report of 49
- Awards
 - Montfort, Joseph
 - See Montfort Medals
 - Service 48
- Bass, Robert Norman, Jr., Past Grand Master
 - Eulogy 98
 - Portrait of
 - See Portraits
- Biographies
 - Grand Master, Charles Edward Cathey
 - See Grand Master incoming
- Boards
 - Custodians
 - Members of 14
 - Report of 82
 - Drewery Trustees
 - Members of 14
 - Foundation Directors
 - Members of 14
 - Report of 67
 - General Purposes
 - Final Report 247
 - Members of 14
 - Report of 220
 - Masonic and Eastern Star Home
 - Members of 14
 - Report of 57

- Masonic Home for Children at Oxford
 - Members of 15
 - Report of 64
- Publication of *The North Carolina Mason*
 - Members of 16
 - Report of 74
- Budget, 1999-2000 45
- By-Laws of Subordinate Lodges, Committee on
 - See Committees
- Cathey, Charles Edward
 - See Grand Master incoming
- Ceremonies and Miscellaneous Publication, Committee on Masonic
 - See Committees
- Charity, Committee on
 - See Committees
- Charters and Dispensations, Committee on
 - See Committees
- Code Commission
 - See Commissions
- Commissions
 - Code
 - Members of 15
 - Report of 69
 - Lodge Service
 - Members of 15
 - Report of 50
- Committees
 - Appeals
 - Members of 16
 - Report of 221
 - By-Laws
 - Members of 15
 - Report of 52
 - Charity
 - Members of 16
 - Report of 53
 - Charters and Dispensations
 - Members of 16
 - Report of 246
 - Credentials
 - Members of 16
 - Report of 245
 - Disaster
 - Report of 54
 - Finance
 - Members of 15
 - Report of 223
 - Fraternal Correspondence
 - Adoption of Report 246
 - Members of 16
 - Report of 50
 - Insurance
 - Members of 17
 - Report of 80

- Leadership Development
 - Report of 84
- Library
 - Members of 17
 - Report of 74
- Masonic Ceremonies and Miscellaneous Publications
 - Members of 16
- Masonic and Eastern Star Home
 - Members of 16
 - See also Masonic and Eastern Star Home
- Masonic Education
 - Members of 17
 - Report of 79
- Masonic Jurisprudence
 - Members of 15
 - Report of 224
- Masonic Home for Children at Oxford
 - Members of 16
 - See also Masonic Home for Children
- Masonic Public Relations
 - Members of 17
 - Report of 77
- Necrology
 - Members of 16
 - Report of 95
- Permanent Building
 - Members of 16
 - Report of 48
- Strategic Planning
 - Report of 84
- Subordinate Lodge Special Activities
 - Members of 17
 - Report of 76
- Unfinished Business
 - Members of 17
 - Report of 68
- Youth Organizations
 - Members of 17
 - Report of 80
- Conferences
 - See Grand Master, Report of
- Credentials, Committee on
 - See Committees
- Custodians, Board of
 - See Boards
- Davenport, Reynold Slade, Past Grand Historian
 - Eulogy 101
 - Portrait of
 - See Portrait
- Development Director
 - Report of 88
- Directors
 - Masonic and Eastern Star Home
 - See Boards

- Masonic Foundation
 - See Boards
- Masonic Home for Children at Oxford
 - See Boards
- Dispensations
- Committee on Charters and See Committees
- Grand Master's
- District Deputy Grand Lecturers
 - Roster, 1999-00 18
- District Deputy Grand Masters
 - Roster 1999-00 18
- Drewry Memorial
 - See Boards
- Duplicate Charter
 - Grifton Lodge No. 243 281
- Election
 - Officers 247
 - Others 248
 - See Board of General Purposes Final Report
- Emergent Communications 20
- Eulogy of
 - Robert N. Bass 98
 - Reynold S. Davenport 101
- Finance, Committee on
 - See Committees
- Foundation, Board of
 - See Boards
- Fraternal Correspondence, Committee on
 - See Committees
- Fund Raising
 - See Committee on Subordinate Lodge Special Activities
- General Purposes, Board of
 - See Boards
- Grand Lodges, other 260
- Grand Master, incoming, Charles Edward Cathey
 - Biography 7
 - Portrait of
 - See Portraits
- Grand Master, presiding, Charles Marshall Ingram
 - Opinions 231
 - Orders of 224
 - Portrait of
 - See Portraits
 - Report of 104
 - Tribute to 250
- Grand Masters, Past
 - List of living 12
 - Roster (1787-1999) 9
- Grand Officers
 - Roster (1787-2000) 254
- Grand Representatives 260

Historian, Grand
Report of 72

Ingram, Charles Marshall
See Grand Master, presiding

Installation
Of officers 251

Insurance Committee
See Committees

Judge Advocate
Report of 52
Jurisprudence, Committee on Masonic
See Committees

Laudamus 83
Lodge Service Commission
See Commissions
Lodges, in NC
Abstract 283
Listed by name and number 267

Masonic Education, Committee on
See Committees
Masonic and Eastern Star Home
Administrator's report 54
Board of
See Boards
Board of Director's report 57
Committee on
See Committees
Committee report 60
Masonic Home for Children at Oxford
Administrator's report 62
Boards of
See Boards
Board of Director's report 64
Committee on

See Committees
Masonic Jurisprudence, Committee on
See Committees
Masonic Public Relations, Committee on
See Committees
Masonic Service Association
See Representative

Medlin, James L.
See Development director
Members and Guests Present
See Annual Communication
Montfort Medal
Recipients 1999-2000 247

Necrology, Committee on

See Committees

North Carolina Mason, Board of Publication

See Boards

Officers

Appointive, current 11

Appointive by Grand Master-elect 250

Elective, current 11

Elective 1787-2000 254

Opening of Annual Communication 22**Opinions**

See Grand Master

Orator, Grand

See Addresses

Orders of Grand Master

See Grand Master

Past Grand Masters

See Grand Masters, Past

Petition

Concurrent Jurisdiction of Mecklenburg County 71

Duplicate Charter of Grifton Lodge No. 243 71

Restoration of membership 72

Permanent Building, Committee on

See Committees

Portraits

Robert Norman Bass, Jr., Past Grand Master 97

Charles Edward Cathey, Grand Master 5

Reynold Slade Davenport, Past Grand Historian 100

Charles Marshall Ingram, Presiding Grand Master 103

Presentations

Grand Master's Apron 252

Grand Master's Fez 252

Grand Master's Jewel 252

Plaque

George Washington Masonic National Memorial Assoc. 221

Masonic Service Assoc. 221

Reports,

See Boards, Committees, Commissions, or Officers

Representative

George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association

Members of 15

Report of 69

Masonic Service Association

Members of 15

Report of 70

Resolution

Committee on Finance 48

Re: Change of the Order of Business 89

Re: Change the Order of Business Second Day 223

Re: To Reprint the OSW 245

Secretary, Grand

Report of 45

Service Commission, Lodge

See Commissions

Sessions

See Annual Communication

Special Activities, Committee on Subordinate Lodge

See Committees

Speeches

See Addresses

Subordinate Lodge Special Activities, Committee on

See Committees

Treasurer, Grand

Report of 44

Trustees, Drewry Memorial

See Boards

Unfinished Business, Committee on

See Committees

Washington, George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association

See Representatives

Youth Organizations

DeMolay

See Addresses

Grand Master's Committee on

See Committees

Job's Daughters

See Addresses

Rainbow for Girls

See Addresses

Charles E. Cathey, Grand Master
152 Bethel Drive
Canton, North Carolina 28716

T. Walton Clapp, III, Grand Secretary
P.O. Box 6506
Raleigh, North Carolina 27628

PRESERVATION

- Reg. 62-1.2 (2) All the lodge books of records and accounts, old as well as new, shall be carefully preserved under lock and key by the Secretary as safely as possible from the hazards of fire, water, loss, or mutilation.
- (3) Proceedings of the Grand Lodge shall be preserved by lodges in suitable bookcases and under charge of the lodge Secretary who shall be responsible for their proper keeping. They may be loaned to members who shall return them to the lodge at or before the next succeeding stated communication.
- Reg. 43-4 Each subordinate lodge in the jurisdiction shall keep copies of the laws of the Grand Lodge for the inspection of its members. It is the duty of the Master to enforce strictly such laws in the lodge over which he presides. The published Proceedings of the Grand Lodge shall also be kept on file and shall be conclusive evidence of all matters reported therein as the action of the Grand Lodge, and except as otherwise provided, shall be evidence of other matters contained there. (23-1; 23-3; 94-11.4).
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NEXT ANNUAL COMMUNICATION

The Two Hundred and Fourteenth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina will be held in the City of Charlotte on the third Saturday in September at 10:00 A.M., it being September 16, 2000.

THE GRAND LODGE OF N. C., A. F. & A. M.
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